THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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Per Annum in Advance.
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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 17TH APRIL.

WE HAVE RECEIVED a copy of the memorial which the Zemindars, Talukdars and other landholders of Sylhet have addressed the Government of India with reference to the Draft of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation, which the Chief Commissioner of Assam has submitted to the Government of India. The memorialists say that they are the inhabitants of a regulation district and are holders of permanently settled estates, and that they can fairly claim to be subject to the same land laws with the Bengal regulation districts. When in 1874 the district was separated from Bengal and made a part of Assam they protested against the transfer, and the Government of India then assured them that there will be no change in the system of law and judicial procedure under which the inhabitants of Sylhet have hitherto lived, nor in the principles which apply throughout Bengal to the settlement and collection of land revenue. It appears from the reply of the Government of Assam to the Sylhet National Association that such a draft regulation is before the Government of India but that no copy of the same will be given to the Association until some reasonable prospect exists that the bill will be made the basis of legislation. This reply is not frank. Surely the Government of India should not decide the matter *exparte*.

MR. J. M. MACLEAN, late of the *Bombay Gazette*, read an interesting paper on the Fall in Silver before the Society of Art in London, and Mr. Martin Wood, also a well known member of the Indian Press, delivered a speech on the same subject. Mr. Wood's remarks contain valuable thoughts and suggestions which we regret we cannot reproduce for want of space. Both the speakers maintained that the depreciation of silver had been of some advantage to India, that it had not been that unmitigated disaster which it had been often represented. "It must be understood," remarked Mr. Wood, "that the depreciation of any legal tender currency could only come about in one of three ways, either by the fineness or weight being diminished, by its being issued in larger quantities than the actual demand for it, or by its validity as a legal tender being interfered with in some way by the Government. None of these things have happened and it was quite incorrect to say that there was a depreciation of the rupee." But it cannot be denied that the purchasing power of the rupee has gone down.

A CORRESPONDENT, referring to the Survey of the proposed Railway line between Mamari and Santipore, observes that the line is made to run nearly parallel to the East Indian Railway and as such will confer very little benefit. What is wanted, he says, is an efficient line of communication between places which require to be opened out and the people of which for want of such communications suffer inconvenience.

WE ARE ASKED to urge again the claims of the Magistrate's Sheristadar to increased emoluments on the score of hard work and higher responsibility. A correspondent says that the Sheristadars of the Magistrates' Courts have to do work almost unassisted. The supervision of the subordinates is a small part of their work, which extends to both Bengali and English Departments. They are translators, correspondence clerks, and are responsible for all sorts of miscellaneous work. We make no doubt that their claims will meet with due attention.

ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT urges the claims of the Munsiffs' sheristadars, whose duties, he says, are as onerous and heavy as those of the District Judge's Sheristadar. The only new work which the latter has to perform is that arising from testamentary and intestate jurisdictions, but such cases are not of every-day occurrence. Our correspondent complains that higher offices in the Muffussil are not open to Munsiffs' sheristadars, whose claims are not recognized. As these sheristadars are now for the most part composed of educated men, our correspondent suggests that in the disposal of appointments district officers should take their claims into consideration. A Munsiff's sheristadar cannot get his maximum pay in less than twenty years. Our correspondent proposes that the time should be reduced to ten years.

TUESDAY, 18TH APRIL.

RAJA RAMPAL SINGH, the Oudh Talukdar, who last year presented himself for the suffrages of an English constituency as a candidate for Parliament, left Bombay for Liverpool last week, with the intention, it is understood, of making another attempt to enter the House of Commons.

IT IS STATED that the Government of India will, if possible, launch the Stock Notes in the Bombay Presidency by means of a Syndicate of capitalists. The Syndicate, it is calculated, would find the transaction profitable, for they would get one per cent. commission, and whatever notes hung on their hands would bear interest at 4 per cent. Probably in July, when money is more plentiful, this scheme will be carried out and the Stock Notes floated.

THE SCOPE of the order against Government doctors engaging in private practice has been extended. The Governor-General in Council is pleased to direct that Superintendents of Central Jails shall not engage in private practice, although they may give advice in consultation, provided such practice is *bona fide* consultative and does not interfere with their duties. By the Medical Warrant of 1867, Principals of Medical Colleges, Storeskeepers, Secretaries to administrative officers, &c., were debarred from private practice, and His Excellency in Council considers that the reasons which called for this prohibition, apply with greater force to Jail Superintendents, whose duties involve serious responsibility, and make great calls on their time.

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, we are glad to observe, is encouraging the employment of natives as engine-drivers. On the East Indian Railway no less than 106 drivers and 117 shunters are natives; and Mr. D. W. Campbell, the Locomotive Superintendent, reports that they continue to give satisfaction. In order to extend the movement, and to qualify natives still more for the duties, 18 departmental schools have been established in connection with this Railway and the average daily attendance at these schools is about 400. It appears that since April, 1875, there has been a saving of 16 lakhs of rupees in wages alone through the introduction of native drivers and shunters. On the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway also, owing to the interest taken in the matter by the late Locomotive Superintendent, Mr. Cooke, there are 55 native drivers, who are employed in connection with the goods traffic and in shunting, and large numbers are in training. With the view of keeping alive an interest on the subject, as well as of producing practical results, the Government of India has required an annual report to be furnished by the different railway administrations of the progress made in training during each year.

SIR CHARLES AITCHISON, the new Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, has appointed Lieutenant-Smith, the son of his old friend, Dr. George Smith, late of the *Friend of India*, to be his Private Secretary.

THE ENGLISH PAPERS to hand bring some particulars of the death of the Dowager Lady Lytton, mother of the present earl. The deceased lady was in her 79th year. Lady Lytton's almost life-long feud with the late earl, her husband, is a matter of history. At one time she even declaimed against him on the hustings, and it is of her the celebrated story is told that when asked if she had read Lord Lytton's last novel, she replied:—"I have renounced the devil and all his works."

THE ATTEMPTED assassination of Mir Ali Murad is noteworthy among crimes of this nature. The murder of Princes would happily become more rare if all exalted personages could "hit back" with the promptness and certainty of this old Sind Chieftain. Notwithstanding his age—over 70 years—and in despite of a desperate wound he received, the gallant old man returned his assailant's fire with such effect as to kill the ruffian on the spot. We sincerely wish His Highness a speedy recovery, and congratulate him upon his exceptional coolness and pluck.

WEDNESDAY, 19TH APRIL.

THE LAHORE TRIBUNE says that Babu Nishikant Chatterjee's German work *Buddhismus und Christenthum*, will be translated into English by an American. The publishers of Mr. Chatterjee have been so much encouraged by the sale of *Buddhismus und Christenthum* that they have offered to print and publish all his German lectures and essays in the shape of a volume. Then Nishikant Chatterjee is we believe the first Native Indian author in German.

THE BILL TO ABOLISH POLYGAMY has passed the American House of Representatives by one hundred and ninety-nine to forty-two. The Republicans voted unanimously in favour of the measure, those who opposed it being all Democrats except one. We hope this will put an end to Mormonism.

WE ARE GLAD to observe that the title of Nawab has been conferred on Syud Vilayet Ali Khan C. I. E. of Patna. We hope Syed Luft Ali Khan will not be forgotten. He holds the purse strings of Behar.

We take the following from the *Behar Herald*: "It appears that Bhagulpur is resolved to take the shine of Bankipur in every respect. We noticed their scheme of water supply, and now we hear of a prospect for the establishment of a musical school, which promises ere long to be a *fait accompli*. At Bankipur, we know to wrangle and scramble, but not to combine for the common good." We are sorry to read this for the sake of Bankipur.

WE ARE GLAD to learn that the Tikari dispute has been at last finally settled. Another great house saved by the friendly intervention of Sir Ashley Eden.

THE INDIAN SPECTATOR on the Bombay Resolution on local self-government: "No one who has carefully gone over that resolution can see anything in it which should impel him to give a good word to Sir James. But enthusiastic worshippers are generally blind. We very much wish *Atha* had read the sober criticism of the "*Hindoo Patriot*" on the subject. If we have about us local colouring surely our Bengal comtemporary, whose criticisms are generally so impartial and valuable, cannot be accused of that failing. In this matter we fully endorse what our able comtemporary the *Times of India* has twice urged in his leaders last week. We agree with every word of his observations. The Government of Bombay has simply made a show of its intention to respect the Imperial resolution of September last. But the trick is too transparent; so much so that we do not hesitate to call it a "mockery, delusion and snare." We require other men than the Ravenscrofts and the Ashburners at our Presidential Council. It were much to be desired the Government of Lord Ripon would make a clean sweep of the fossilised wisdom that has dictated at "Bombay Castle" the sham resolution on local self-Government." This is strong language but it is not altogether undeserved.

THURSDAY, 20TH APRIL.

WE HAVE received from the Refahi-aam Committee of Lucknow a copy of the address of thanks and the reply thereto which they have exchanged with the Government of India on the subject of the repeal of the Vernacular Press Act. As these documents have already appeared in the morning papers we do not think it necessary to republish them.

WITH REFERENCE to the agitation of the question of increased pay and improved status of the Sheristadars of District Judges, especially those of 2nd class districts, we have received another communication this time from a correspondent at Chota Nagpore. The writer says:—

"The *Munshersins* in the N.-W. P. occupy a position analogous to that of District Court Sheristadars in Bengal. They have less onerous duties to perform and compared with the Bengal Court Sheristadars they are men of inferior acquirements and yet they are paid at once the very handsome salary of Rs. 200 and this rate of salary prevails in all the districts, first and second class. In Bengal not only there is a great inequality between 1st class and 2nd class districts, but the maximum salary is given after an age as it were. The Committee appointed in 1878 to revise Civil Court establishments in Bengal stopped short of making a definite recommendation on the score of financial exigency, but they admitted that the Sheristadars have to perform much responsible work and therefore they recommended their case to the favorable consideration of Government. It may be

observed in passing that the Commitee's hesitation to make a recommendation involving increase of cost on the plea of financial exigency is a *canard* in the face of a large surplus every year from the receipts from the sale of judicial stamps."

We need hardly say that the aggrieved have made out a very strong case, which deserves a favourable consideration from Government.

WE LEARN with great satisfaction from a communication received from a near relative of the late Amir Khan that the Government of Bengal has been pleased to sanction a monthly allowance for defraying the cost of the education of the grandsons of the deceased at the Allygurh Anglo-Oriental College. The late Amir Khan we believe left no sons, and the grandsons referred to are the sons of his only surviving daughter, Musmut Lehunissa.

WE ARE SORRY we omitted to acknowledge last week the receipt from Babu Jointychunder Sen of Sobhabazar of a paper containing the "Worship-Mode"—to use the Babu's word—of a new goddess which he proposes to add to the Hindu Pantheon and to bring to the notice of the Hindu public. The goddess is *Sita-Luksmi* and the paper contains in Sanskrit verse the usual welcome address, prayer &c. The Babu says, that he published twenty-two years ago a book entitled "*Sree Sree Surswati Navami Brata Bidhi*," giving a detailed description of the form of worship and of the inauguration ceremony. He speaks of the worship having come into vogue at Benares and several other places. Observing the neglect and inattention of the rising generation in this matter he intends to republish the book and distribute it *gratis*.

HAVING NOTICED the grievances of Sheristadars of Judges' Courts, we cannot consistently abstain from noticing what a correspondent at Krishnaghur calls the grievances of the translators. He thinks that the translators of District Judges' Courts have no less onerous and troublesome work to do, and therefore deserve no less considertion for increased pay. He also refers to the Head-Clerks and Accountants of the District Court, who for the work they perform he holds are not adequately paid.

A CORRESPONDENT at Dogachi in the Pubna district gives this curious instance of license tax assessment. In adjudging a license tax appeal a Deputy Collector estimates that the complainant (a milkman) must have a yearly income of Rs. 800, because the man owns five milch-cows. They must yield at least 25 seers of milk daily, from which he extracts 6¼ seers of butter, and as butter is more paying than milk the appellant's income is underestimated at at Rs. 800. A Daniel come to judgment!

THE SAME CORRESPONDENT remarks: "What a boon has the Government forced upon the people, who never complained of the price of salt even at Rs. 3-4 a maund, by reducing the salt tax! If the English public had any idea of the annoyance and oppression involved in the assessment and levy of the license tax they would have never approved of the reduction of the salt duty in lieu of the repeal of the unpopular license tax."

A RANCHI CORRESPONDENT writes:

"What a frightful change in the habits of the people here is observed of late. Under the old arrangement there were very few liquor shops and the facility for obtaining liquor was limited. From 1st April great many shops have been opened and at every turn you meet with reeling savages in the streets. The aboriginal tribes who hitherto lived upon *handia* or home-brewed liquor are now thronging to the liquor shops where drink is sold at an anna per bottle. Even lads getting a pice or two from their parents visit the shops for the purchase of liquor. In the evening these liquor shops are inconveniently crowded with customers. To people who do not indulge in drinks the present mode of distilling liquor is a source of great annoyance. Formerly there was one Government distillery out of the limits of the town where the vendors obtained liquor and retailed the same in their respective shops. Now the liquor is distilled where it is sold and the stench is insufferable."

WE LEARN from certain correspondence, copies of which have been forwarded to us, that the Maharaja of Bettiah has in compliance with the Lieutenant-Governor's wishes expressed during his late tour in Behar made over the garden containing the late Mr. Revel's Cemetry to the Revelgunge Municipality, and it is intended to improve the garden and the tomb in commemoration of Sir Ashley Eden's visit. As a permanent memorial of Sir Ashley's visit a Bazar has been opened opposite Revel Garden and called the Eden Bazar.

WE HAVE received the following telegrams from the Press Commissioner:

Simla 19th April.—Ayub Khan and Zuinat with ten other Affghan Chiefs arrived at Teheran on the eighteenth April with over 300 followers.

20th. It is reported that there was a military emeute at Herat in March last owing to the Governor's punishment of a soldier. It was however quickly suppressed. The Governor of Birjand and Gham had visited Abdul Kudus. Khodayar Khan of Khokhand who had been summoned to Herat had died on his way there. Abdul Kudus is reported to have married the daughter of Mohamad Khan Biglar Bagi with much ceremony—a quarrel is said to have arisen between Abdul Khudus and the sons of Agha Khan Jamshedi. The rumour lately published of the death of Sirdar Mahomed Hashim Khan seem to be unfounded: The Sirdar is said to be at Meshed.

The Queen has approved appointment of Sir Steuart Bayley as Member of Council in the room of Mr. Rivers Thompson.

FRIDAY, 21ST APRIL.

CONSEQUENT on the assumption by Sir Alfred Lyall of the Lieutenant-Governorship of the North-Western Provinces, Mr. Grant and Mr. Mackenzie have been confirmed as Secretaries to the Government of India in the Foreign and Home Departments.

AS A COROLLARY of the above Mr. Macaulay is confirmed in his appointment of Financial Secretary to the Government of Bengal. Mr. Macaulay has well-earned this promotion.

WE OBSERVE that Babu Rajendranath Mittra, late Assistant Secretary to the Government of Bengal, has been posted to the 24-Pergunnahs as a Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the first grade on Rs. 800 a month. We wish the Babu had not accepted this post. His forced retirement from the Bengal Office ought to have been fought out to the last.

WE take from the Journal of the National Indian Association the following items of Indian intelligence:

Mr. M N Banerjee has passed the First MRCS Examination and the Primary Examination of the Society of Apothecaries, London.

Mr. G B Prabhakar has passed the MRCS (London) Examination and the Examination of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow.

Mr. J N Mitra has passed the Examination in Surgery of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow.

Mr. S Satthianadhan, BA (Corpus College), gave a lecture lately at Cambridge on "England and India." The chair was taken by Dr. Westcott, Regius Professor of Divinity.

Mr. S M Israil (Middle Temple), Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bengal, has been granted an extension of leave of twenty months by the Secretary of State for India.

Mr. Damodardas Ghordundas Sukhadwala, who visited England last summer, has returned to Bombay, after extending his tour through America and China.

Arrival.—Mr. B Chakravarti (or Chatterbutty), MA. Lecturer on Physical Science in the Howrah Engineering College, Calcutta, for study at the Royal College of Agriculture, Cirencester.

ALMOST all the Bombay vernacular papers have announced that a Parsi gentleman of Bombay is to receive the honor of knighthood on the next birthday of the Queen. Who is this fortunate Parsi?

THE INDIAN SPECTATOR says: "The Lancashire operatives demand an increase of wages, now that their masters have saved the five per cent. duty on the goods exported to India. How far their demand will be met, is a question. But, supposing that the employers accede to an increase of fully five per cent., what will become of the cry for "cheap goods" for this country?" As usual the poor people of India will go without the plum.

SATURDAY, 22ND APRIL.

THE LATE Chief Justice of Bombay at the Byculla dinner is reported to have thus spoken of the Native Bar of the local High Court:

"As to the pleaders of the High Court, they are now a respectable a body of men as one could desire, being in this respect quite the opposite to what they once were. Gentlemen, I recollect the day when in the *Sudder Adawlut*, the leading man had undergone five years imprisonment for fraud. (Laughter and Cheers). And now, gentlemen, these pleaders are all highly educated men, and undergo an examination of the most searching character, in order that the profession may be maintained at the high level at which it now is, and they are ready to hunt out of it any man whom they believe to be dishonourable, and will spend much time and much money in attaining that end. (Cheers). This gentlemen, I think is a circumstance of which the High Court may be proud, as it is owing to its encouragement that such a profession has grown up. (Cheers)."

The wholesome influence of the High Court has contributed not a little to the growth of an efficient body of pleaders both in the Provincial capitals and in the districts.

IT IS said that 80,000 of Edison's electric lamps are in use in foreign countries, and that he will soon be making them at the rate of 1,000 per day. They are used for lighting buildings, including the smallest rooms.

A COMMITTEE of the French Chamber has recommended the abolition of religious oaths, and the removal of religious emblems from the Courts of Justice.

THE CHINESE EXCLUSION BILL passed the United States Senate without amendment. Great dissatisfaction prevails among shipowners in the Pacific Coast, as the measure is expected to act prejudicially on the trade with China.

WE OBSERVE that the district of 24-Pergunnahs has been divided into two halves and [illegible]

is the name of the new district. Mr. Funicane has been appointed Magistrate, and Babu Mohendra Nath Hazra the Superintendent of Police of Khulnea. Will the sub-division of Barripore be retained?

AMERICAN astronomers are on the tiptoe of expectation for the visit of a star, the appearances of which are as few and far between as those of many comets. It is known as "the Pilgrim," and was observed in A. D. 945, 1264 and 1572 or at intervals of something over three hundred years. It was described in 1572 as brighter than Jupiter, and "such was its brilliancy that persons were able to detect it at noon in a clear sky, and at night when the sky was so overcast as to hide all other stars." If it appears it will probably be visible for several weeks in the constellation of Cassiopeia.

WE ARE glad to observe that the Lieutenant-Governor has been pleased to exempt Raja Shourendra Mohun Tagore from attendance in Civil Courts.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London, April 17th.—In compliance with the strong wish of the President of the United States, Doctor Lamson has been finally respited until the 28th instant., pending the reciept of affidavits. The Bombay mails of the 31st ultimo arrived at Brindisi yesterday.

18.—Parliament re-assembled yesterday after the Easter recess. In the House of Commons Mr. Gorst introduced a motion urging the release of Cetewayo. Mr. Gladstone said his restoration was possible, if enquiries now being made should prove that such a course would be beneficial to Zululand. In the meanwhile he asked the House not to press a discussion on the subject. The motion was ultimately withdrawn.

19.—At a Meeting of the Chartered Mercantile Bank shareholders, the Chairman ascribed the non-success of the last year's operations to an erroneous view taken by the Directors of the probable results of the monetary conference. He deprecated the idea of amalgamating the Eastern Exchange Banks.

19.—Advices have been received that Ayub Khan has arrived at Teheran. Ten arrests have been made at Cork for treason, on the evidence of an informer. A disastrous explosion has taken place at Tudhoe Colliery in Durham. 35 dead bodies have been already recovered. Sir Charles Ellice has been appointed a Grand Cross of the Bath.

19.—The Jury have returned a verdict of not guilty of high treason in the case of Roderick Maclean, who shot at the Queen, and have declared the prisoner to be insane.

Mr. Parnell returns to Kilmainham Jail from his parole on Monday next.

The House of Commons have read a second time, by a very small majority, a bill for charging necessary election expenses to the rates The Ministry supported the bill.

21.—An acrimonious debate took place in the House of Commons last night respecting a Police Circular issued in Ireland, which states that police escorts accompanying Magistrates will be absolved from all blame if, suspecting an attack, they should shoot innocent parties. Mr. Forster disavowed the circular, which, he said, was indiscreet.

Mr. Redmond, the Member for New Ross, has been suspended for vilifying Mr. Forster.

At a meeting of Shareholders of the Orietal Bank Corporation, the Chairman said they never entertained the idea of the amalgamation of the eastern Exchange Banks.

WE ARE EXCEEDINGLY glad to learn that Major Baring is steadily progressing in health, though the fever will of course run its course.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals: 1. Annual Report on the Condition and Management of Jails in the N.-W. Provinces and Oudh for 1881. 2. The Renaissance of Islamite Civilization, by D. Hosain Ahmed, B.A. 3. The Law of Testamentary Succession among the Mohammadans of India, by Ditto. 4. The Bisheu Talukdars of Northern Oudh, by Rajendralala Mitra, L.L.D., C.I.E. Reprinted from the *Calcutta Review*. 5. The Registration of Mohammadan Marriages, by D. Hosain Ahmed, B.A. 6. Elements of Statics and Dynamics in Hindi, by Novina Chundra Rai. (Published under the auspices of the Panjab University College, Lahore.) 7. The Eighth Annual Report of the Chundernagore *Pustokagar* for the year from 1st October 1880 to 30th April 1881. 8. The Annual Report of the Buksha Government Aided Vernacular School for 1880 with an account of the Proceedings of the Prize Distribution Meeting. 9. Journal of the National Indian Association, No. 136, April, 1882. 10. Messrs. John Dickenson & Co.'s Monthly Price List of Printing Papers, Cards, &c., for April, 1882. 11. Sayan-Chinta, or Evening Thoughts,—a Poem in Bengali, by Surrojkant Mookerjee. 12. Munuj,—a Dramatic Poem in Bengali. Published by Hurry Mohun Mookerjee.

WE ARE requested to contradict the rumour that Babu Kalicadas Dutt will accept the Dewanship of the Raja of Purnea. He has no intention of leaving the Kuch Behar State.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

(SESSION 1882.)

LECTURE by the Very Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., at [illegible] Tuesday, the 27th inst., at 7½ P. M. [illegible] Optical Instruments.

Digitized with financial assistance from the National Archives of India on 07 August, 2017

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Friday, the 28th Inst., at 7½ P. M.

Subject: Change of State in bodies by Heat. Fusion Solidification and Vaporization.

LECTURE by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy, F.C.S. F.I.C., on Saturday, the 29th Inst., at 3 P. M.

Subject: Remaining Compounds of Nitrogen with Oxygen and Ammonia.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, APRIL 24, 1882.

THE NEW LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.

TO-DAY Mr. Rivers Thompson takes charge of the destiny of sixty-nine millions of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa. He is not new to the province. He has seen thirty summers in this country and gained varied experience. Excluding the subordinate appointments he was a District Judge, a Revenue Commissioner, and a Chief Secretary to the Bengal Government. He was for some years the District Judge of Nuddea, and was noted for a careful sifting of facts, equanimity of mind, and soundness of judgment. He was then appointed Revenue Commissioner of the Presidency Division. In this high office he brought the same good qualities to bear upon his work—in fact the principal feature in his character has throughout been his judicial temper. From the Presidency Commissionership Mr. Thompson was translated into the Bengal Secretariat, and was appointed Chief Secretary in the Judicial Department. The scheme of appellate benches, which first originated with Sir Richard Temple, was we believe his idea. He as Judicial Secretary to the Government of Bengal propounded it, elaborated it, and improved it. Whilst in the Bengal Secretariat he was if we recollect aright offered a seat on the bench of the High Court, but he did not like to sink into a judicial automaton. He could easily perceive that he had a higher career before him, and so he declined the High Court Judgship. Soon after he was appointed Chief Commissioner of British Burmah on the appointment of Sir Ashley Eden to the Legislative Council. Possessed of a quiet disposition he noiselessly pursued his career in British Burmah. He did much in the way of improving the internal administration of the province. From the Chief Commissionership of British Burmah he was elevated to the Supreme Council, in which he has shewn much ability, prudence, courage, and independence. He was opposed to the evacuation of Kandahar, and wrote a strong minute on the subject, which it was thought by the *Pioneer* had jeopardized his appointment to the Bengal Lieutenant-Governorship. Of course this was a *canard*, but the fact is the more creditable to Mr. Thompson. Since the advent of Lord Ripon, Mr. Thompson's influence in the Supreme Council has been more marked. We are in a position to state that his sympathies were entirely on the side of the repeal of the Vernacular Press Act and that he advised its unconditional repeal. He has been chiefly consulted by the Viceroy regarding the Bengal Rent Bill, and in all matters relating to Bengal he has naturally been looked upon by His Excellency as the best authority.

Mr. Thompson in temper and character approaches Sir William Grey more than any other of his predecessors. Calm, quiet, unostentatious and thoroughly conscientious, he pursues his work with an even tenour. We believe he is fully alive to the spirit of the age, and as he was associated with the Government of Lord Ripon, and consequently identified with the measures of that Government, he will, we make no doubt, carry them out in a sympathetic spirit. He is in favour of giving a fair trial to the experiment of local self-government. The whole country may not be ripe for it, but he does not see any reason why it should not be tried in those districts, which are in a forward state. But we fear he is not prepared to withdraw the leading strings of the District Magistrate. On this point we believe the official mind is at one. Then, again, Mr. Thompson is not likely to change the elective system in Calcutta. We believe he feels that it would be a death-blow to the political prospects of the people of this country, if the representative form of government adopted in the metropolis of British India should be abolished on the score of the failure of the representatives, who compose the Corporation of Calcutta. He will certainly take measures to secure the efficiency of the Calcutta Corporation, but he will we believe be very reluctant to change the constitution. Mr. Thompson may go further. He may advocate the establishment of an Executive Council for Bengal, if not on the representative principle, at any rate on the principle of nomination as it obtains in the other two Presidencies. The question of a Council for Bengal was we believe raised in the later days of Lord Lytton, and Mr. Thompson, if we are informed aright, then advocated the establishment of an Executive Council for Bengal. He was of opinion that the details of administration for Bengal have become so vast that one pair of eyes were not equal to look into them, and that it was therefore necessary to add a few pairs more. It is true the Secretaries are the advisers of the Lieutenant-Governor, but Mr. Thompson holds that the advisers should have definite responsibility as Counsellors of State. He would perhaps break up the Board, and convert it into a Council of the Lieutenant-Governor. But this will not be enough. There ought to be at least some representation of the people in the Council. But it is premature to discuss the question now as it is not on the *tapis*. We mention the subject only to shew which way Mr. Thompson's sympathies run. At the Civil Service Dinner to Sir Ashley Eden on Saturday last, Mr. Thompson, who presided, expressed his sympathy with the spirit of the administration of his predecessor, and declared that it would give him great pleasure to carry out his policy in all important matters.

The task of governing Bengal, we must confess, is gradually becoming more and more difficult. The people are advancing in civilization and in their ideas of government, and they cannot bear the yoke of patriarchal rule. Personal Government must, therefore, give way to Constitutional Government. The man who should wish to rule Bengal in these days by his own iron will, however able and conscientious, can have no sympathy from those, who think for the nation, and direct the national thought. Then again the conflict of interests is becoming rather too keen. Not only is there divergence of interests between Europeans and Natives but between different sections of natives. For instance the Mahomedans complain that they do not get the loaves and fishes of the State in sufficient quantity. The Beharis wont allow the Bengalis to poach upon their preserves, nor would the Oriyas allow the Bengalis to invade their domains. In respect of State preferments and honors there seems to be hot rivalry among the different sections of the native community, and all this interposes new difficulties in the practical administration of the country. Mr. Thompson will doubtless take into account these difficulties, but his path is clear. If he holds, as we feel confident he will hold, the scale of justice with an even hand, he has nothing to fear. He comes in with the hearty good will of all parties, and the universal good feeling in his favour ought to carry him through all the difficulties that may surround him in his exalted position.

THE TOWN HALL MEETING.

NEVER was a Calcutta meeting more truly representative than was the meeting at the Town Hall on Friday last in honor of Sir Ashley Eden. Hitherto with one or two exceptions public meetings in Calcutta generally represented the Calcutta public, but last Friday's Meeting represented not only Calcutta but the districts, and all classes of the mixed communities of these provinces. The Bench, the Bar, and the legal profession, the merchants, the tradesmen, the Church both Protestant and Catholic, the zemindars, and all other important bodies were represented at the meeting by their highest men. But the most interesting feature of the Meeting was the presence of so many leading men of the districts either in person or by delegates. There were the Maharaja of Burdwan, the Maharaja of Hutwa, the Maharaja of Doomraon, the Maharaja of Giddhore, Maharaj Kumar Rameshwar Sing of Durbangha, Raja Hurbullub Narain Sing, Syud Looft Ali Khan, Newab Vilayet Ali Khan, Col. Hedayut Ali, and many others from the districts, all men of position, substance and influence in their respective districts. As for the notabilities of Calcutta and its vicinity they crowded on the occasion. The leading members of the European community also mustered strong. The gathering was not swelled by school-boys, though there was a small sprinkling of them. Sir Richard Garth was voted to the chair. We give below an abstract of the proceedings of the Meeting:

I.

Moved by Mr. Morrison, Vice-President of the Chamber of Commerce.

Seconded by the Maharaja of Hutwa.

That this Meeting desires to record its high sense of appreciation of the successful administration of Sir Ashley Eden as Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

II.

Moved by Mr. Branson.

Seconded by the Hon'ble the Maharajah Jotindra Mohun Tagore Bahadur C. S. I.

That a marble statue of Sir Ashley Eden be erected in this city as a memorial of his distinguished career in this country.

(Here Newab Abdul Lutief Khan Bahadur read a letter from a Burmese gentleman stating that his countrymen would be glad to subscribe to a statue of Sir Ashley Eden.)

III.

Moved by Archbishop Goethals.

Seconded by the Maharajaof Giddhore.

That the necessary fund for the erection of the statue be raised by inviting subscriptions, and that Sir Ashley Eden be requested to give sittings to an artist in England for the statue.

IV.

Moved by Mr. Zemin, Master of the Trades' Association.

Seconded by Maharaja Narendra Krishna Bahadur, President of the British Indian Association.

That the following Address be adopted and presented to Sir Ashley Eden:

To

THE HON'BLE SIR ASHLY EDEN, K. C. S. I, C. I. E.,

SIR,—WE, the undersigned, on behalf of a meeting of the admirers of your administration, desire, on the eve of your departure from this country, to approach you with this expression of our appreciation of your meritorious, vigorous, and successful rule as Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

About thirty years ago you first arrived in this country, and, after passing through the usual noviciate, have held from time to time high positions of trust and responsibility. In all those positions, you have evinced a breadth of mind, thorough knowledge of the country, strong common sense, great vigour, firmness and frankness, and above all a generous and enlightened sympathy with all classes of the people.

As the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal your task has been one of grave difficulty and delicacy. Inhabited by a varied population, representing on the one hand European commerce and enterprise, and on the other the most advanced Indian intellect, and with political aspirations such as sometimes give rise to conflict of interests not only as between the two races but also among the different sections of the vast native public, this Province presents an administrative problem of no ordinary difficulty; but during the last five years your ability and prudence have kept these jarring interests subordinate to those of justice and the good of the general community.

Bengal has long since passed the patriarchal epoch, and in the present stage of its political existence the administration of its affairs has in a great measure to move in well-defined grooves. It is not, therefore, given to the Ruler of the province to strike out new and bold paths for progress. His task is not so much one of construction as of consolidation. His special duty it is to see that the administrative machinery be kept in perfect gear, that all the wheels move freely and smoothly, and that those in charge of the machine do their duty honestly and faithfully. Beyond question such merit may justly be claimed for your guidance of the State machinery of Bengal.

You have done more. There have been measures adopted by you, which will form landmarks in the history of the administration of this province.

In the practical working of the scheme of local finance Bengal has shown that if she be allowed to use her own money for her own benefit, her resources are ample for all purposes without necessitating fresh taxation; and this result is entirely due to your careful, vigilant, and skilful management.

As regards internal communications Bengal has, under your auspices, during the last five years, received far greater impetus to material improvement by the construction or extension of roads, railways and canals than it had been her lot to see during the whole period since the creation of the Lieutenant-Governorship.

Education has found in you a zealous champion, and the grants for both liberal and primary education have been increased under your Government, scope has been given to the development of the voluntary system, and encouragement accorded to Sanskrit learning. You have also established a college of practical engineering at Shibpore, and founded scholarships to enable students to study agriculture in the Cirencester College in England.

Justice has been brought nearer to the poor man's door by the multiplication of courts, both civil and criminal, which has also served to extend the employment of native agency. Steps have been taken for the better training of Covenanted Judges by giving those, who may select the judicial branch, an opportunity in their early career to familiarize themselves with the trial of civil suits. In the administration of the law the liberty of the poor subject

has been protected by the imposition of proper checks upon the arbitrary and capricious manner in which certain sections of the Criminal Procedure Code used to be enforced.

The public health has occupied a large share of your attention, and large grants have been made from the provincial treasury to several districts for the improvement of drainage and water-supply.

Although Bengal is fortunately not prone to political convulsions, there was last year an uneasy feeling amongst the Sonthals, but the knowledge which you had gained of that people during the revolt in 1855 enabled you on this later occasion to pacify them without having recourse to extreme measures.

In matters of legislation you have sought to give the land rest, not only by your immediate action in the Local Legislature, but also by your earnest and well-timed protests in the Supreme Council. Your intimate knowledge of the circumstances of the people of this country has convinced you how ill-suited to it is direct taxation, and you have lost no opportunity in protesting against the imposition or extension of any thing partaking of the character of an Income Tax. You have been a warm advocate of the principle of governing India for India, and the manner in which you have asserted this principle will be gratefully remembered by the people of this country. You have always supported judicious proposals for the reduction of public and particularly of military expenditure, and as President of the Army Commission you have, in conjunction with your colleagues, made recommendations, which have been generally approved by the Government of India, and which if carried out are calculated to effect large savings without impairing the efficiency of the Army.

It could not be expected that all your measures should meet with universal assent, but it cannot be denied that your rule, as a whole, has conferred solid benefits upon this country, Every class in the community without distinction of race or creed has reasons to be grateful for services rendered to it. Whilst to commerce, trade and private enterprise you have accorded every encouragement, the peasantry are indebted to you for a considerable improvement in their condition and some of the oldest native families have been laid under deep obligation by your friendly offices for their rescue from the disastrous effects of protracted litigation.

We cannot conclude without acknowledging your personal qualities, which have endeared you to all, who have the pleasure of your acquaintance. Your kindness, courtesy, unfeigned friendship, and desire to do good to all, consistently with your position and duties, have not a little heightened the value of your services as a ruler. By freely mixing with natives, by your generous treatment of them, and the kind and warm sympathy you have always manifested towards them, you have set an example which has already borne fruit on congenial soil, and the beneficial results of which it is to be hoped will not pass away with your departure from this country.

In now taking leave we have the consolation of knowing that with your departure from this country your official connection with it will not cease. In your seat at the Council of the Secretary of State you will still have opportunities for the exercise of your knowledge, experience, and sympathies in promoting the cause of good government in India. We wish you a safe voyage home, and pray that the Author of All Good will bless you with long life, prosperity and happiness.

V.

Moved by Babu Durgachurn Law.

Seconded by Newab Abdul Lutief Khan Bahadur.

That the following gentlemen form a Deputation to Sir Ashley Eden for presenting the Address:

Hon'ble Sir Richard Garth Kt., H. H. the Maharaja of Kuch Behar, the Maharaja of Burdwan, the Maharaja of Durbhanga, the Maharaja of Hutwa, the Maharaja of Domraon, the Maharaja of Giddhore, Messrs. G. H. Morrison J. J. J. Keswick, Chas H. Moore, R. A. Turnbull, D. Cruickshank, J. J. Brooke, A. P. Ralli, T. D. Ralli, W. H. Cheetham, Robert Miller, R. Williamson, J. Stevenson, D. G. Landale, W. P. Alexander, Hon'ble F. Prestage, Messrs. H. Reinhold, A. A. Apcar, captain C. J. Wilkinson, Messrs. W. Bluck, E. D. J. Ezra, E. S. Gubboy, J. W. O'Keefe, H. F. Brown, E. Thoeburn, Archbishop P. Goethals S. J. Archdeacon J. Baly, Mr. J. H. A., Branson, Mr. F. J. Fergusson, Very Revd. Father Lafont S. J., Messrs. T. de B. Miller, Robert Turnbull, H. W. I, Wood D. J. Zemin, H. Pratt. A. H. Wallis, G. Irving, A. Acton, J. G. Womack, R. Y, Remfry, L Richards, E. Hickie, Thomas Jones, Hon'ble Maharaja Jotendra Mohun Tagore Bahadur, C. S. I., Maharaja Komul Krishna Bahadur, Maharaja Narendra Krishna Bahadur, Raja Rajendra Narain Deb, Bahadur, Raja Harendra Krishna Bahadur, Raja Suttyanund Ghosal Bahadur, Raja Rajendra Mullick, Raja Showrendra Mohun Tagore Mus. Doc, C.I.E., Raja Promotho Nath Roy Bahadur, Raja Harbullubnarain Sing Bahadur, Kumar Poornochunder Sing, Hon'ble Doorgachurn Law Babu Joykissen Mookerjea, Dr. Rajendralala Mittra, Rai Bahadur, LL. D., C. I. E, Babus Shamachurn Law, Judoolal Mullick, Pearymohun Mookerjea, Obhoychurn Goho, Damudardas Burmon, Siruddendranath Tagore, Juggodanund Mookerjea, Konjolal Banerjea, Hon'ble Bhoodev Mookerjea, Babus Kunjolal Mullick, Pearychand Mitter, Issurchunder Mitter, Hemchunder Ker, Durgagoti Bannerjea, Surendra Nath Pal Chowdry, Grishchunder Ghose, Grishchunder Das Roy Bahadur, Govindchunder Dutt, Princes Feroke Shah, Rubeemooddeen, Mirza Johan Kadir, Prince Nusseeruddeen Hyder Newab Asgar Ali Delwar Jung Bahadur C. S. I. Syud Ahmed, Newab Abdul Lutief, Khan Bahadur, Hon'ble Amir Ali, Syed Amir Hossein, Babus Joygobind Law, Dwarka nath Dutt, Dr. Mohendralal Sircar, Babu Kanyelal Dey, Rai Bahadur, Mr. Manickjee Rustomjee, Mr. H, M, Rustomji, Kumar Debender Mullick, Rai Joyprokashlal Bahadur. Babu Harbans Sahai, Moulvi Khoda Buksh, Syud Looft Ali, Syud Mehdie Hossein Khan, Syud Vilyat Hossein Khan, Newab Vilayut Ali, Col. Hidyat Ali, Pundit Mohcshchunder Nayaratna, Hon'ble Mahomed Yusuf, and Hon'ble Kristodas Pal.

(Here Raja Rajendra Narayan Deb Bahadur addressed the meeting.)

VI.

Moved by Babu Joykissen Mookerjea.

Seconded by Hon'ble Amir Ali.

That in order to save time the members of the Deputation be requested to sign the Address on behalf of the Meeting.

VII.

Moved by Mr. Keswick.

Seconded by Mr. Manickji Rustomji.

That the following gentlemen be requested to form a Committee for the purpose of receiving subscriptions and carrying out generally the Resolutions passed at this Meeting:

Hon'ble Sir Richard Garth, Kt., the Maharaja of Burdwan, the Maharaja of Durbhanga, the Maharaja of Hutwa, the Maharaja of Doomraon, Messrs. G. H. Morrison, J. J. J Keswick, Chas. H. Moore, D. Cruickshank, W. H. Cheetham, J. Stevenson, A. A. Apcar, Archbishop P. Goethals S. J. Archdeacon J. Baly, Messrs. J. H. A. Branson, F. J. Fergusson. D. J. Zemin, H. Pratt, Very Revd. Father Lafont S J. Messrs. Robert Turnbull, A. H. Wallis, E. Hickie, Hon'ble Maharaja Jotcendramohun Tagore, C S. I., Maharaja Komulkrishna, Maharaja Narendrakrishna, Raja Harendra Krishna, Kumar Poorno Chunder Sing, Babu Joykissen Mookerjea, Hon'ble Doorga Churn Law, Babus Rajendralala Mitra L.L.D. C.I.E., Peary Mohun Mookerjea, Kumar Debendra Mullick, Babus Judoolal Mullick, Koonjolal Banerjea, Prince Feroke Shah, Newab Abdul Lutief Khan Bahadur, Hon'ble Ameer Ali, Prince Mirza Jahan Kadar Bahadur, Prince Nusseerooddeen Hyder, Syud Amir Hossein Mr. Manockjee Rustomjee, Rai Joyprokash Lal Bahadur, Babu Harbans Sahai, Babu Durgagati Banerjee, Syud Looft Ali, Newab Velayut Ali, Mr. H. W. I. Wood, and Hon'ble Kristodas Pal,—*Honorary Joint-Secretaries.*

The Deputation wait ed upon Sir Ashley Eden on Saturday last at 6 P. M. with the address, which was read by Sir Richard Garth. Sir Ashley returned the following reply:

GENTLEMEN,—I find it difficult adequately to express my sense of the great honour which has been done to me, and of the gratification which has been afforded to me by the presentation of such an address as that which you have just read. This expression of the feelings and sentiments of a meeting representing so largely all classes of the community European and native, fills me with just pride, for I can conceive nothing of which a man has a greater right to be proud than that at the close of a long public life he should leave the country with the appreciation, the good-will, and the friendship of such an assemblege as that which you represent.

When you tell me that in your opinion every class in the community, without distinction of race or creed, has reason to be grateful for services rendered to it, you say that which is calculated to give me the greatest pleasure which it is possible for a man to feel. Whatever truth these words may contain is the result of the attribute with which you credit me of warm sympathy with all classes of the people, I can honestly and conscientiously lay claim to the possession of this feeling of sympathy for the people of this country, and it has been the main guide of my conduct throughout my official life; and will continue undiminished on my retirement into comparatively private life.

You have rightly defined the true position of a ruler of such a province as Bengal. I have always maintained publicly and privately that in the present condition of the province, which is already in a much more advanced stage of developement than the rest of India, the proper functions of its ruler is not to disturb and unsettle the public mind by frequent spasmodic changes of policy, and by the tentative introduction of radical and showy administrative measure in advance of the real requirements of the people, but gradually to carry out such reforms as are proved to be essential to the progress of the country, to consolidate and strengthen the works of the past, and to maintain every branch of the administration in condition of good working order and efficiency. I am glad to find that my policy in this respect has been understood and appreciated by you, and that you consider that I have effectively carried out the line of conduct by which I from the first declared that I should be guided. I have sought to effect no sensational measures but have acted throughout under the firm conviction if the administration of Bengal is conducted with honesty and common sense, if communications are opened, education encouraged, and protection to life and property secured, contentment and prosperity must follow of themselves. I gratefully recognize that in the pursuit of this policy I have recieved the generous and discriminating support of the vast community which you represent, and in pronouncing these my last public words in the land where I have spent the best years of my life, I feel with pride that I have attained the highest distinction that an administrator can covet, when the representatives of every class have combined to declare that I have done my duty. In bidding you farewell, I must express the earnest hope that the unanimity which I see to-day may long continue and that the different classes you represent may recognize that the true interests of all are identical with one another and with those of Government. The country in which I have laboured so long, and in which I have formed so many warm personal friendships, must always remain for me an object of deep solicitude and affection, and I trust that I may live to see your united efforts successful in advancing Bengal still further on the path of prosperity and enlightenment.

The Meeting went off as smoothly as a marriage bell. There was not a single hitch or a single unpleasantness. The Chief Justice's conduct in the chair was all that could be desired. Indeed, we cannot feel too thankful to his Lordship for his hearty co-operation in this matter. The best speeches were those of Mr. Morrison and Mr. Branson. There was no attempt at speechification on the part of the Native speakers.

The Meeting was thus eminently successful, and the response given by the whole country to the invitation of the promoters of the demonstration has been both hearty and enthusiastic. The co-operation of the European community has been most valuable. Seldom have the Europeans and Natives gone hand in hand with such alacrity as they have done in this matter. We hope the union thus effected will not be dissolved. We are glad to learn that the subscription already amounts to over Rs. 16,000.

DEMONSTRATIONS IN HONOR OF SIR ASHLEY EDEN.

CALCUTTA presented a novel and peculiar spectacle last week. There was not a day on which some demonstration was not made in honor of Sir Ashley Eden. In fact we do not recollect any other Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal had been so enthusiastically honored as Sir Ashley Eden has been. Newab Abdul Lutief's Mahomedan Literary Society was the first in the field in presenting a valedictory address to Sir Ashley Eden. We give below the following extracts from this address:

The cause of Mahomedan Education in Bengal which has prominently occupied the attention of our Society from the very beginning, had attracted your interest and care in other capacities during the Administrations of Sir John Peter Grant, Sir Cecil Beadon and Sir William Grey; and during Your Honor's own incumbency as Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, that interest and care have been continued with the best results. The special measures devised by Your Honor for the encouragement of Mahomedan education in all its branches are highly appreciated by the Mahomedans of Bengal, and will be remembered by them with the greatest gratitude.

In the distribution of public patronage, we are glad to find that Your Honor has endeavoured to do justice to the claims of the Mahomedan community, by appointing educated Mahomedans to posts of honor, responsibility and trust, and we are sanguine that, with the further spread of education Your Honor's successors in the Government of these Provinces will be able to continue and extend the exercise of such patronage.

In reply Sir Ashley Eden among ather things said:

In all my dealings with the subject of Mahomedan education, I have endeavoured to keep two principles in view: the first, that what may be called religious education, still retains a deep and firm hold on large sections of the Mahomedan community, and will be sought for by them quite irrespectively of any worldly advantage or disadvantage that may be the result; the second that if Mahomedans are to succeed in life, they must accept those conditions of education under which alone, in the present circumstances of India, success is possible. I have therefore, on the one hand, maintained in their integrity those Madrassas in which the Mahomedans of Bengal can receive education in the form which has been consecrated by centuries of tradition, and on the other, I have endeavoured to throw open the doors of Western education more widely to Mahomedans of the classes which you represent, namely the literary classes. I have good reason to hope that my efforts have been crowned with some success, and it has given me much pleasure to learn that the number of Mahomedan students in the aided colleges of Calcutta, in which I gave special facilities for their education has just doubled within the past year.

The farewell banquet given by the European community was a most enthusiastic demonstration Sir R. Garth presided and made a hearty speech in proposing the health of the guest of the evening. His Lordship said:

Sir Ashley Eden is one of those too rare instances of public men who, with strong convictions of what is right, and with an equally strong determination to carry out those convictions, devote themselves to promoting the interests of the community, whatever the consequences may be to their own advancement. We all know that, like most other public men, he has had his seasons of storm and sun shine. He has had his trials, his difficulties his detractors. But those drawbacks have only served to bring out, in bolder relief, the high qualities which enabled him to evercome them. His power of unravelling truth, his force of will, his earnestness of purpose, and the courage and ability with which he has pursued the course which he believed to be right,—these are the great qualities which have deservedly obtained for him the approbation of the public, and which generally have crowned his efforts with success.

If you ask for the proof of that success look around you. I should be very sorry to attribute the whole, or nearly the whole, of the prosperity which Bengal now enjoys to Sir Ashley Eden, or any other human agency,

We have been blessed with good harvests; and good harvests mean prosperity. But when we consider what Bengal was in 1876, and what Bengal is now, we shall indeed all find very much to be thankful for. The large increase in our revenues, the extension of railways, roads, and irrigation works, the railway to Darjeeling, the encouragement which has been given in all directions to the cause of education, the establishment of the Sibpore College, and the improvement, which has taken place in my own department Law and Justice,—all these are but a few of the great manifold blessings and of the benefits for which we are indebted to the administration of Sir Ashley Eden.

Sir Ashley Eden made a feeling reply. We wish we could give it *in extenso,* but we are sorry to say we have not space for it. We will however give a few extracts from it. Sir Ashley said:

Now that the time has arrived for leaving the country, which from long association and connection I have learnt to look upon almost as my home, I leave it with great regret. It is no doubt, fortunately the case that one's official life closes very much as the natural life of man closes. As at the end of life men are reconciled to leaving the world, its interests, and its pleasures, by a craving for rest and quiet, so, at the end of a long official life, there comes a time when one feels the same longing for rest and freedom from the constant strain of the responsibilities of high office.

You will easily understand from what I have said that my final departure from this country fills my mind with very conflicting feelings. There are many friends I leave behind me here whom I can never expect to meet again. There are scenes all round me, which have been to me for years [illegible]

liar objects in my daily life, which I shall never see again; and though I shall be in a position to watch with interest passing events in Bengal, I shall not be able to feel that I have any longer any great personal or individual share in promoting the progress of the country. You will therefore believe me that it is no affectation on my part, no assumed sentiment, no complimentary form, when I say that I do feel depressed and sad in saying farewell, as I now do, to a community which has been so full of friendship and good feeling to me as the community which I am now addressing.

And while your very unexpected demonstrations of friendly feeling have necessarily been a gratification to me, they have to some extent enhanced and aggravated my feelings of sadness, because they have shown me how many sincere and true friends I am leaving behind me.

In giving up a large Government like that of Bengal, my first thought is how little after all I have been able to do in a few short years; how many things are left undone which I intended to do; how many evils I have been compelled to leave unredressed; how may works for the public good have, from one cause or another, never gone beyond the initiatory stage of conception. Though you have, in your resolution inviting me to this dinner, alluded so favourably to my administration of this Government, I cannot pretend to believe or even hope, that I have at all times and on all occasions given satisfaction to every class by my measures. No one feels more than I do how, with the most honest motives and with the best information attainable, every Governor must occasionally make mistakes and unwittingly do wrong to some interest or some individual. I do not attempt to claim for myself freedom from the liability to err, which is common to all. What I do claim for myself is recoguition of the fact that I have set myself to work steadily and perseveringly to do my best, and to forward to the utmost the well-being of this province, and to guard to the extent of my ability the interests of every class who had a claim to look to me for the protection of their rights. I do not take the very cordial demonstrations which have been made on my leaving this Government as a testimony that I have always succeeded in what I have tried to do; but I look on them as a testimony from you that you do believe I have done all in my power to promote the public good.

He then noticed a happy change of feeling among Europeans and Natives in the following terms:

Both in their public and private relations all classes of our community are now in entire accord. If Government wants information or advice on any question affecting the public interests, it immediately applies to one or other of the great public bodies of the city for its opinion. The position of the Chamber of Commerce, of the British Indian Association, of the Trade's Association and of other public bodies, is that of the recognised advisers of Government on questions requiring special knowledge. In both Councils the commercial interests and the professions are well represented; and that most efficient and successful corporation, the Port Trust, is composed of officials and non-officials working together. I am glad to have this opportunity of saying how well they have in my opinion worked, and how much they have done for the port. I wish the European community of Calcutta would take a larger share in the management of the affairs of the city; already it supplies some of its most useful and active members, and I see grounds for hoping their numbers will be gradually increased. For my own part, I can never sufficiently thank the public bodies and associations, European and native, not only of Calcutta, but of the provinces, for the great and continuous assistance they have given me; and I desire among these specially to include the Indigo Planters' Association of Behar who have worked with me honestly and loyally in the adoption of measures which have given peace and contentment to Behar. I have always received from the various associations the most straightforward and disinterested opinions on the subjects referred to them. Socially, the change has been the same; there is now no trace of that separation of classes which existed some years ago. For myself I may safely say that I am leaving behind me as many good and sincere friends amongst one class as amongst the other.

Sir Ashley thus concluded:

There is certainly no department in which every reform which I could possibly introduce has not been introduced. There are some reforms such as those connected with the disposal of judicial appeals, which the public naturally enough still demand; but they are connected with great measures still under consideration, and it is no fault of mine that they have not been introduced. There is peace and prosperity and plenty throughout the land; property is as secure as it is in other lands in a much more advanced state of civilisation; justice is ably and impartially administered by Judges having the confidence of the people; our jails are emptier than they have ever been; education is making most rapid advances, especially amongst the masses; the country is being opened out in every direction by roads, railways, and canals; large schemes of irrigation for protecting great tracts of country have been completed, and I feel I have every reason to be grateful that I can leave the province in the condition of progress and prosperity in which I honestly believe it to be. In all my work I have had the inestimable advantage of being cordially supported by the Viceroys under whom I have had the honour of serving, and I have also had the advantage of the most cordial support and assistance from other great public officers with whom I have had much business to transact, though they were in no way subordinate to my Government—such as the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court, the Lord Bishop, the Archdeacon, and the Military authorities.

On Wednesday the Pundits of Bengal, some 300 in number, met at the Sanskrit College, and presented him some farewell odes, with emblems of Brahmanical benediction. We give below an English translation of the odes:

Hail! To the Lotus-hand of the Hon'ble Sir Ashley Eden, K.C.S I., C.I.E., of benign presence,—the one object of the gratitude of numberless men, whose hearts have been won by his good government like that of India, the king of the gods.

O Sir! we whose only wealth is Sanskrit learning, exalted by you, having come with hearts full of endless gratitude, from all parts of Bengal, are intent upon giving you, with deep humility, this address. Graciously accept this present offered from our very hearts. I.

These few written leaves, though of no worth to you, will not, we trust, be unacceptable, conveying, as they do, our deep regard. Does Mohadeva disregard the Vilva leaf, or the lord of Lakshmi [Vishnu] the Tulasi leaf? The great so regard to whatever is offered with due reverence. III.

We feel grateful, because to our good fortune, having assumed the Government of Bengal, you have ever been anxious to do good to your subjects and that you have ever ruled with an equal eye. IV.

This is an everlasting law, in accordance with the Vedas, for [the guidance of] kings, that they should be worshipful towards Brahmins come back from their preceptors' families [finishing their studies.] This law, laid down by Manu, had sunk in the Ocean of Time; now, raised up by yourself, it is brought to life. V. & VI.

The Almighty, seeing that the tree of learning of the Aryas had withered under the [burning] Sun of Time, made you, we imagine, the ruler of Bengal; so that, in order to cherish it with the water of kindness, you have opened, as a channel, this goodly system of the examination of Pandits. VII.

These poor Pandits and these poor students from the *tols* have been greatly encouraged by the Sanskrit examinations and the grant of scholarships, rewards and titles. Thus on earth the fame of your honoured self will last for ever. "He lives whose work lives;"—so will you live in Bengal though far away. VIII.

"Men reap, even in this world, the fruits of their works, good or bad, when extremely great." The Ruler of the universe, in order to show the truth of this saying of the Sage, has made you a member of the Council of the Secretary of State for India, giving you the fruit of your good deeds here, such as the preservation of Sanskrit learning. IX. & X.

We now heartily pray to God that your voyage home may be safe, and that in your native land you may enjoy health and prosperity, and that you may live long that you may do greater good [to mankind.] XI.

The same evening Sir Ashley Eden formally opened the new Hospital for women and children. In course of his speech on this occasion he ably vindicated his policy of hospital reform. A morning contemporary finds fault with him for attacking Dr. Beatson on such an occasion, but probably he is not aware that Dr. Beatson had lately circulated a pamphlet among young medicos poisoning their minds against the policy of Government. On Thursday last the National Mahomedan Association presented a farewell address from which we give the following extract:

The Mahomedans owe to your Honor a special debt of gratitude for your constant endeavour to promote their welfare. The concessions made by your Honor regarding the payment by Government from the Mohsin Funds of two-thirds of the schooling-fees of Mahomedan students prosecuting their higher studies in some of the Colleges in Calcutta, and the improvements effected in the Calcutta Madrassa, testify to your Honor's solicitude to further the spread of high education among the Mahomedans. The vigour and independence which have always been the distinguishing characteristics of your administration, your large-hearted sympathy with the people of the country, and your desire to deal equitably with all classes of the Indian community, claim our grateful recognition.

We make the following extract from Sir Ashley's reply:

You have spoken of the privilege recently accorded to Mahomedans of reading in any of the Calcutta colleges, whether Government or private, at one-third of the ordinary fees. I sincerely trust that measure may have the effect of largely increasing the number of Mahomedan graduates, and the number of students has, I am glad to say, already doubled within the last year. It is the veriest truism to observe that in the race of life the best educated men will as a class win. If Mahomedans are, as I fear, can hardly be denied, somewhat behind their neighbours in that race, we cannot overlook the fact that they have not qualified themselves by their education for honourable and lucrative employment to the same extent as their neighbours have.

We have received the addresses of the Chamber of Commerce, the Behar Landholder's Association, and the people of Bhaugulpore, and the replies thereto, but we are sorry to say we cannot make room for them for want of space.

SIR ASHLEY EDEN'S LAST GAZETTE.

THE CALCUTTA GAZETTE for Wednesday last was the last issue under the *imprimatur* of Sir Ashley Eden as Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. It contains several important papers. We will notice them *seriatim*.

Local self-government.—The first subject is the extension of local self-government. Sir Ashley Eden, it is well known, has gone into the question *con amore*. He has been far more active and practical than any other provincial Governor. The last Resolution on the subject says: "Sir Ashley Eden has no doubt of the soundness of the general policy of extending local self-government in Bengal, and he believes it to be at once the duty and the interest of Government to promote among the people a genuine and intelligent concern in the management of local affairs and the development of local institutions." Sir Ashley, however, adheres to his old conviction, that the measure to be successful ought to be tentative. He says that "he is convinced that, if this policy is really to succeed, it must be introduced with the utmost caution, and that any attempt to force suddenly upon the country at large an elaborate system of administration based upon the practice of Western nations and foreign to all the traditions and ideas of the people, must necessarily result in failure." He adds: "In a province like Bengal, which contains districts representing many diffferent stages of development and education, no single system of local self-governmet could be administered with success. Pooree and Chumparun differ as much from Singbhoom and the Chittagong Hill Tracts on one side as they differ from Hooghly and the 24-Pergunnahs on the other. If the measure were uniform, it would fail by being either too elaborate for the backward districts or too simple for the more advanced. If it provided in itself for too many gradations, it would be unwieldy. In the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion we should provide for the gradual advance of backward districts by improving existing machinery and enlarging the powers of local bodies, as far as may be considered advisable, by executive order. For advanced districts one comprehensive measure should be enacted providing for all the branches of local self-government." Accordingly His Honor says: "The Committees constituted under the Cess Act should be carefully revised and strengthened, inactive members being eliminated and members added who will consent to take a genuine interest in the administration of the district affairs. To these Committees should be entrusted provisioually the maintenance of all Provincial Roads, of Staging Bungalows, and of such other buildings as the Department of Public Works may find it possible, in consultation with the Committees, to place under their management. The existing District Education Committees should be abolished and their functions transferred to the Committees already entrusted with the administration of the Road Cess. These functions would be considerably enlarged. They would extend to some control over the grant for primary schools, and over the grant-in-aid allotment, and to the management of Government secondary schools and circle schools, and of Government high English schools. The Committee would also be vested with the management of all dispensaries outside municipal limits which now receive aid from Government. They would have the charge of all school and dispensary buildings in cases, where the institution was under their charge. A fixed grant would be made representing the present expenditure on the services entrusted to the Committees, less the net proceeds of ferries and pounds in the district. Ample powers of inspection would be reserved to Government, and that, in the event of the duty not being satisfactorily performed; the whole or a part of the grant or of the Committee's powers might be withdrawn." As regards the constitution of the Boards Sir Ashley Eden considers it essential that the unit of administration should be the *Local* or Sub-divisional Board, and not the *District* Board. The District Board should have the general control of the scheme of district work; it should have the allotment of funds, and it would direct the policy of the district as a whole. But the details of local self-government can only be performed by working local bodies within limited areas of jurisdiction. He is not opposed to a fair trial of the elective system, but would limit it to one or two places experimentally. The proportion of non-official to official members should be two to one. As a general rule appointment to Local Boards must be by nomination—by Government in the first instance, and by Government or the Board itself on the occasion of vacancies. Sir Ashley Eden would have the following property qualification for a voter—the payment of Rs. 25 road cess or Rs. 20 license tax, or proof to the satisfaction of the Magistrate of the district, of income from other sources than land amounting to not less than Rs. 1,000 per annum. For candidates Sir Ashley Eden would insist on the possession of

landed or house property within the area to be respresented of the value of not less than Rs. 1,000 per annum. The *District* Board should consist of two delegates elected by each Local Board, where the jurisdiction of the latter extends over not more than three thannas, of three where it extends over four thannahs, and of four where it extends over more than five. As the District Board will have control over education in municipalities and over provincial and district roads passing through them, municipalities should be duly representated, two delegates being sent by each first class municipality and one by each second class municipality with a population of 5,000 or more. With regard to the presiding officer of the Board the Lieutenant-Governor says:

"The Lieutenant-Governor has said that the Chairman of the District Board should be the Magistrate of the District. This is an indispensable condition. The District Officer is the mainspring of the administration, and it is absolutely essential that his position should be upheld in its integrity. Experiments in local self-government will be very valuable as a means of educating the people in the conduct of affairs, but they must not be allowed to weaken the frame-work of Government. In the day of trouble Government must look to its District Officers, and not to District Boards, to uphold its authority and carry out its orders. There is no reasonable doubt, moreover, that the great mass of the people would have no confidence in any system of management from which the head of the district was excluded, or in which he held a subordinate place, and that they would attach no prestige to a Board constituded under such a system. Any one who knows the country knows that the District Officers possess in a remarkable degree the confidence and respect of the people."

The above is a brief outline of the scheme recommended by Sir Ashley Eden. It is characterized by his usual strong common sense, but on two points we do not agree with him. We would not limit the experiment of the elective system to one or two places, but would extend it to first class municipalities generally, and we do not think that the appointment of the District Magistrate to be the Chairman of the Board would be conducive to the independence of the Board. We have so often argued these points that we do not think it necessary to repeat what we have said before. But one thing is clear—if the executive head of the district should be the head of the District Board, the members, who will always have some personal interest in the district, will scarcely have the courage to go against his views and wishes. This is the strongest objection to the appointment of the District Magistrate to be the Chairman of the District Board.

Sir Ashley Eden thus concludes this Resolution:

"Such is the general scheme of legislation which Sir Ashley Eden would propose. He would gladly have initiated it himself, because he believes that if it is worked judiciously, and without too great an anxiety to force elaborate provisions on districts which may not be ready for them, it will be successful. Some persons are of opinion that apathy and indifference on the part of the people will prove an insuperable obstacle to any attempt to interest them in local self-government. Sir Ashly Eden does not share these apprehensions. In many districts in Bengal there are able and energetic men who are willing to take a share in the management of public affairs. Their readiness to assist only requires judicious management and direction. If these men are properly encouraged and are treated with reasonable confidence, their interest in the work will increase, and their example will be followed by others. Sir Ashley Eden trusts that this will be the policy of the officers of Government in administering this Act, and that, though there may be some disappointments at first, the ultimate result will be a large measure of relief to the public departments and of lasting benefit to the best interests of the people.

We fully appreciate these generous sentiments.

Water-supply for the Suburbs.—Sir Ashley Eden has taken a lively interest in the question of water supply to the Suburbs and he has not forgotten it at the last moment. With a view to assist the Suburban Commissioners he has offered a grant of Rs. 170,000, to be spread over four years, on condition that the work is begun by 1st January 1883. There were two schemes submitted, one by Mr. Buckley, and the other by Pundit Prannath Sarasvati; the Lieutenant-Governor gives preference to the former. But His Honor is not just to the Calcutta Municipality. His Honor has directed that Calcutta should supply the water to the Suburbs at prime cost. Surely this cannot be just, for unless provision be made for contingencies, risks, and wear and tear of pipes and engines, Calcutta will have to pay for the benefit of the Suburbs.

Provincial finance.—The Resolution on this subject sums up the results of the working of the Decentralization scheme during the last five years. In the Resolution of 24th June 1881 Sir Ashley Eden instituted a comparison between the revenue and expenditure of the five years 1877—82. These five years cover the period affected by the contract under which the first great advance in the policy of decentralization was made. They also coincide with the term of Sir Ashley Eden's administration. The successful administration of the provincial finances has been the most brilliant feature of Sir Ashley Eden's rule. Including the imperial allotment the revenue in 1877-78 was Rs. 320,54,000, but it is estimated for 1881-82 at Rs. 5,66,80,000. Similarly in 1877-78 the expenditure was Rs. 3,08,600, with a closing balance of Rs. 11,24,000, whereas it is estimated for 1881-82 at Rs. 4,34,31,000, with a closing balance of Rs. 72,49,000. The following items are instructive as showing the advance made by the Province between 1877 and 1882:—

	1877-78	1881-82.	Increase
Revenue.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Excise	6868000	9500000	2632000
Stamps	10815000	12000000	1185000
Law and Justice	805000	910000	105000
Jails	689000	800000	111000
Railways	732000	3219000	2487000
Irrigation and Navigation ...	1261000	1762000	501000
Expenditure.			
Land Revenue	2137000	2700000	263000
Administration	1322000	1486000	164000
Law and Justice	6377000	6838000	461000
Education...	2524000	2677000	153000
Railway	626000	3216000	2590000
Irrigation and Navigation ...	*1520000	3761000	2241000
Other Public Works	2539000	6692000	4153000
Contribution to local objects ...	.....	333000	333000
			Decrease.
Jails	1651000	1590000	61000
Medical	1385000	1093000	292000

* 1878-79.

The three items of revenue which show the largest increase are Excise (26¼ lakhs), Railways (25 lakhs), Stamps (12 lakhs), and Irrigation and Navigation (5 lakhs). The items of expenditure which show the largest increase are Other Public Works (41½ lakhs, Railways (26 lakhs), Irrigation and Navigation (22½ lakhs), Law and Justice (4½ lakhs), Land Revenue (2½ lakhs), Administration (1¾ lakhs), and Education (1½ lakhs). These are stern facts. They shew with what ability, care and skill the finances of Bengal have been administered by Sir Ashley Eden. He has undoubtedly proved the best financier of Bengal. No other province has profited more under the Decentralization scheme than Bengal, and the credit belongs entirely to Sir Ashley Eden.

THE RAJPUT STATES IN 1880-81.

COLONEL BRADFORD was in charge of the Rajputana Agency during 1880-81 except for a few days towards its close; but the report for the year has been written by his *locum tenens*, Colonel Walter. The most important event in Rajputana during the period embraced in the report was, of course, the death of the late lamented Maharaja Ram Sing of Jeypore. Colonel Walter pays the following graceful tribute to His Highness's memory: "The loyalty of the late Maharaja to the British Government was well known and appreciated. His premature death cut short a rule which was most popular with his subjects, and which, judged by the standard prevailing in Native States, may be pronounced to have been just and creditable. As an enlightened and unprejudiced ruler, the name of the late Chief was known beyond the bounds of Rajputana, and his friendship towards Europeans was shown, not only in courtesy and hospitality to those who visited his capital, but also in the kind and considerate way he treated those of our nation who were in his employ." Colonel Beynon, late Political Agent, Jeypore, in noticing Maharaja Ram Sing's death, remarks:—"The amiable character and public-spirited administration of the late *Chief* are too well known to require any eulogium at my hands; suffice it to say, that in my own case his death cut short a friendship that had lasted for 12 years, while the expressions of regret at his loss officially published by the Government of India, and the frequent allusions to it in both the English and Vernacular newspapers, testify to the esteem in which he was held alike by the Government to which he was so loyal, and by all classes of the community." The death of the late Maharaja, who was a model Native Prince, at the early age of 48 years, has been an irreparable loss to Rajputana. It appears that the various Chiefs and Durbars of Rajputana entered cordially into operations connected with the census of 1881. These operations, however, created an uneasy feeling among the Bheels in Meywar, as they did among the Sonthals in this Province. "The most absurd rumours," writes Dr. Stratton, the Political Agent of Meywar, "were at one time afloat regarding the object of the census; it was said that the Government wished to learn the number of the Bheel population, with the view of ascertaining how many could be spared for Kabul; that the counting of their cattle meant the imposition of a new tax; that it was the intention of Government to take away their wives from them, in order that the race might become extinct; and another and still more ludicrous idea was that marriages were to be regulated according to the weights of both parties—that the women were to be weighed, the fat ones being made over to the fat men, and *vice versa*: absurd as this may appear, this last scare was gravely discussed in my presence, and it formed one of the items which the disaffected Bheels have entered in their schedule of grievances." This uneasy feeling turned to open revolt and defiance after the close of the year to which the present report relates. It is to be regretted that Colonel Walter does not throw much light on the material condition of the people of Rajputana during the period under review. All that he says on this important point is that in Bikanir, Jeypore, Tonk, Boondee, and Shahpura the harvests were more or less scanty, but in other parts the crops were above the average. A little more detailed information under this head would have been welcome to the public. We are glad to notice that education generally made fair progress in Rajputana during the year under report. The through opening of the Western Rajputana Railway on the 1st January 1881 completed the line from Ahmedabad to Agra and Delhi. At the close of the official year only two bridges were left unfinished, but these bridges having been passed in April, the Rajputana Railway commenced by Lord Mayo in 1869 was completed on 1st May 1881.

Of the Rajput States, three—Kotah, Jhallawar, and Dholepore—continued under British administration during the year under report. There was no change in the Members of the State Council in Kotah and the relations of the Political Agent with the Chief were satisfactory. The balance of the State debts remaining to be liquidated amounted to a little over eight and a half lakhs. The assessment of seven Nizamats has been completed, and the result has been an annual increase equal to nearly six per cent. The Kotah City school is efficiently conducted by the head-master, Babu Jadu Nath Ghose. The Political Agent thus sums up the present condition of Kotah:—"In conclusion, I would remark that the Kotah State may now fairly be considered in a flourishing condition. Crime has largely decreased, waste lands are being brought under cultivation, the revenue is steadily increasing, the administration is conducted by a well paid staff of officials, a land settlement is being carried out, public works of general utility, such as roads, irrigation works and public buildings are in progress, the heavy load of debt has nearly been cleared off, and there is a large and increasing cash balance in the treasury." These results are most satisfactory. The Political Superintendent of Jhallawar speaks very highly of the progress made by the young chief. The liabilities of this State have by this time been paid up. The debts which encumbered the Dholepore State are in course of clearance. Colonel Dent[illegible] Political

Agent, reports favorably of the young Chief's progress and character. He writes: "The education of the Maharana has been vigorously prosecuted under the immediate superintendence of Mr. Deighton, M. A., Principal of the Agra College, who reports that the progress made by the young Chief has been most satisfactory, and much greater than during any previous year. His Highness has been working with me somewhat as an additional Member of the Council of Regency. He sits with me in Court and hears Criminal, Civil, Revenue and miscellaneous cases. The supervision of the military establishments has been specially made over to him, and all questions regarding enlistment, pay, promotions, leave, discipline, &c., in that department are sent to him for disposal. I have invariably found his orders to be just and sensible." This is full of promise. There are eight schools in Dholepore which were carefully visited and inspected during the year by Babu Uma Churn Mookerjee, M. A., the able tutor to the Maharana.

We now come to the States ruled by their own Chiefs. The Maharana of Oodoypore continues to fulfil the high expectations formed of him. He is very attentive to business and takes an active personal interest and part in the Government. His relations with the Political Agent on the one hand and with his feudatories on the other are satisfactory. During the year under report some changes were made in the working of the codes. A new code of rules was established and the powers of the various Civil and Criminal Courts were better defined The Maharana has sanctioned the construction of a road from Oodoypore to Chittore, which should facilitate the transit of trade to the railway, The subject of opening up his country is receiving His Highness's attention. In Jodhpore no material change took place in the administration during the year under report. The chief direction of the State was as before in the hands of the Maharaja's brother his Dewan and his Private Secretary. No such institution as a Council of Thakoors exists in Jodhpore. The Political Agent thus speaks of the progress of education in Marwar:—"It is satisfactory to report that, year by year, education is making advances in the Marwar State. In the Jodhpore High School this is more remarkably the case. Four students appeared at the last Entrance Examaniation of the Calcutta University of whom only one returned unsuccessful, a result creditable to the Head-Master, Ganga Prasad, and the Maharajah has given further encouragement to the cause of education in Marwar by endowing four scholarships of Rs. 20 per mensem each, sending their holders to Ajmere for the purpose of learning the routine business of the Railway Traffic Department and Railway Telegraphy." This is as it should be. The Marwar Durbar is making a branch railway to Pali, which will be of great advantage to the State and this line in future be extended to the capital. The through-opening of the Western Rajputana Railway which we have alluded to above, was an important event for Marwar during the year under report. The Political Agent does not furnish a favourable account of the state of matters in Serohi. The Thakoors were discontented and not under proper control. The administration of Jesulmere was, however, carried on smoothly and quietly as before. The affairs of Jeypore naturally attracted much public attention during the year under report. The late Moharaja on his deathbed nominated, as every one knows, Kami Singh as his successor. This nomination was confirmed by the Government of India; though not a minor, the new Maharaja was not at once placed in uncontrolled charge of the State. Other arrangements were made for the administration of affairs until such time as the young Chief should have acquired sufficient knowledge and experience. An account of the changes that were made in the State after the death of the late Maharaja and an explanation of the reasons for each change would have been most interesting and instructive, more especially as under the new arrangement sanctioned by the Government of India the Political Agent was given a potential voice in the affairs of the State. But this important information is not to be found in the report before us. Colonel Beynon states that his views on the working of the new arrangement were submitted in a special report. We think that in the interests of the public that report should be published, so that we may know what have been the results of the practical working of the new arrangement. The administration of Kishengurh is favourably reported on, and Colonel Walter endorses the Political Agent's opinion on the intelligence, amiability and capacity for work of the young Chief. Nothing of importance occurred in the Bharatpore State during the year under report. The affairs of Kernowlie went from bad to worse, and its Chief has since been deprived of his powers, and the State placed under the administration of a Council of Regency. The administration of Tonk was not in a satisfactory state. "The Nawab," observes Colonel Water, "though thoroughly well-intentioned, is considered to be lacking in strength purpose, and inclined to give way to the whim of the moment." Affairs in Boondee were efficiently managed. We are glad to notice an improvement in the affairs of the Raja of Ulwar, brought on, in all probability, by his able Private Secretary, Lala Sri Ram, M. A., who has much influence with his master and has his interests at heart; but His Highness has still much to learn in order to turn a good ruler. Education is advanced in Ulwar. Five students went up to the Entrance Examination of the Calcutta University of whom three passed. We observe with pleasure that some reforms and improvements have been effected in the Bikanir State, though there have been no changes in the *personnel* of the administration. The system of forming pergunnahs has not been resuscitated, and the Maharaja has been impervious to the importance of making a new settlement with the Thakoors of the State.

EDUCATION IN THE PUNJAB.

FROM the late Lieutenant-Governor's Resolution on the Report of the Director of Public Instruction in the Punjab we learn that the number of pupils receiving instruction during the year was 104,923 as compared with 100,442 in the preceding year. This increase is satisfactory, and it is attributed "partly to the cessation of the disturbing influences of the war, and partly to the greater healthiness of the seasons," which prevailed throught the year. Lord Lytton's Affghan War was such a mischievous affair that it even interfered with the progress of education in the Punjab. We are glad to note that during the past ten years the fee income received in that Province has risen from Rs. 45,000 to Rs. 1,10,804. This growth is remarkable and there is every reason to hope that it will be steady. During the year under report the increase in fee-income amounted to Rs. 7,000. and that in contributions from MunicipalFunds to over Rs. 9000. Omitting the cost of the Medical School, the total expenditure on education in 1880-81 came up to Rs. 13,38,724 as compared with Rs. 13,41,118 in the previous year. It is strange that the Punjab Government is not disposed to treat the contributions from District and Municipal Funds as receipts from independent sources. Its Secretary tells the Director of Public Instruction, that "to creditGovernment with only such aid as is received from Provincial revenues, is misleading, and the Lieutenant-Governor considers that this procedure should not be repeated from year to year." Does Sir Robert Egerton, then, want the Director to credit Government with the money contributed by District and Municipal Funds for purposes of public instruction? These two Funds are quite distinct, and any contributions from them cannot be treated as having been made by the Government. So great is the anxiety of the opponents of the present system of education to show that the people of India do not pay adequateiy for the instruction they receive, that they would even credit Government with the money contributed from District and Municipal Funds—Funds locally raised and locally managed for local purposes. The primary schools of the Punjab show a large increase from 84,504 to 88,195 pupils during the year under report; but at the same time there was a decrease in expenditure and an advance in the income from fees. "All these results," observes the Lieutenant-Governor, "are creditable, as is also the increase in the number of boys who passed the upper primary examination." His Honor then goes on to say: "The drawbacks which at present exist in the inefficiency of teachers will, it may be hoped, be largely overcome in a few years more by the normal schools: The results of primary teaching in aided schools are far from favourable as compared with those in Government schools; and this is the more unsatisfactory, as grants-in-aid should be given only under very special circumstances to primary schools, which, as a rule, must be supported from local sources. This principle has been repeatedly laid down by Government, and cannot be too strongly enforced; and it is already under consideration in connection with the further decentralization scheme to relieve district and local funds of some of their present charges so as to enable them to devote more of their income to the cause of Primary education. There is a constant tendency to overlook the duties of the State with regard to primary instruction, and turn greater attention to the more showy results of higher education, and this tendency requires to be steadily watched. Signs of it are not wanting in the present report; but it would appear from the review of educational progress during the past decade a somewhat larger proportion of the total expenditure is now spent on primarty education than in 1880-81; and if it is found possible to carry out the financial arrangements above mentioned a still greater increase will take place in the future. Meanwhile, the Lieutenant Governor would once more direct the earnest attention of all officers to the duties of District and Municipal Committees in the matter of primary education." Sir Robert Egerton admits that the want of efficient teachers is an obstacle in the way of the extension of primary instruction; and yet His Honor directs Municipal and District Committees to do all that they can for extending primary education. What is the use of establishing schools, which cannot properly teach?

The first and most important thing is to improve the quality of the instruction given in the primary schools that are already in existence. When this has been done; there will be time enough to increse the number of schools. That the results of primary teaching in aided schools are far from favourable, is admitted by the Lieutenant Governor. If so,common sense would suggest that the teaching in these schools should be first improved be fore additional institutous are opened But it is notorious that Panjab officers do not so much care for real, substantial progress as for coloring materials for their reports.

Coming to secondary education, we notice that the number of pupils in the ten high schools of the Province in 1880-81 was 500 more than in the preceding year. The number of the students who presented themselves at the Entrance Examination of the Calcutta University and the Punjab University College fell off from 321 to 269 and the number of successful candidates from 169 to 137. We here see a tangible result of the determination of Government to raise the Punjab University College to the rank and status of a full University. It is fair to say that the Punjab Government is not opposed to the progress of secondary education. Secondary schools, the Lieutenant-Governor remarks, "supply a link in the chain of educational institutions between the Middle Schools and the Colleges, and it is hoped that it will be found possbile to open them gradually in many places where tha means of higher education are not at present available." This is satisfactory. The raising of the standard for the Middle School examination corresponding to the Middle Class Anglo-Vernacular Examinations of the North-Western Provinces and the Minor Scholarship Examination of the Lower Provinces caused a diminuation in the number of candidates for this test; but the proportion of successful students was ten per cent. higher than in 1879-80. High English education has practically been abolished in the Punjab since the Calcutta courses ceased to be taught in the only College in the Province—namely the Lahore Government College. Sir Robert Egerton in reviewing the Director's report, takes the Educational Department to task for turning "greater attention to the more showy

results of higher education," and he declares that "this tendency requires to be steadily watched." He tells the Director that "signs of it are not wanting in the present report,"—a point which Colonel Holroyd will no doubt appreciate. It is needless to say that Sir Robert Egerton expresses his great satisfaction at the sanction accorded by the Secretary of State to the proposal to raise the Punjab University College to the status of a full and complete University. The Resolution before us says:—"The hope which was expressed in the lsst review that the success gained in University examinations would be somewhat greater in future has been partly fulfilled during the present year. Ten students passed the Bachelor of Arts and High Proficiency Examinations as compared with 6 in 1879-80, and 18 passed the First Arts Proficiency Examinations as compared with 16 in the previous year." No student, however, went up for the Master of Arts or Honor Examination direct from the Government College. Two Students passed the Honor Examination of the Calcutta University but they were private students. It is remarkable that 8 students passed the B. A. Examination of the Calcutta University of whom only two passed the High Proficiency Examination of the Punjab University College. This fact conclusively shows the great value which Punjab students attach to the degrees of the Calcutta University. During the year under report a Central Trainiug College was established at Lahore. "Before the close of the year," we read, "the classes had been formed and the course of teaching commenced, and 51 students were already preparing to qualify for Masterships in the higher schools of the Province." The Mayo School of Art, we are glad to see, is doing useful work. The Lieutenant Governor remarks:—"The Chief drawback connected with the progress of this school is, that the public taste as regards the subjects taught is not yet so advanced as to offer the prospect of steady lucrative appointment to the students. The Lieutenant-Governor considers that definite certificates of proficiency in the different branches of art in which they have qualified should be given to the students on leaving school, and His Honor will be glad if the Director will arrange for this with the Principal. It is possible those certificates may be more sought after if they are found to assist the pupils in obtaining employment." Yes, people will seek after aducation if it offers the prospect of lucrative employment to the students. This applies with equal force to all kinds of instruction. In Jupiter or Saturn learning may be valued for its own sake, but such a thing cannot be expected in this planet of ours. The authorities in the Upper Provinces should clearly understand that education will be more in request among the people if it is found to assist the pupils in obtaining suitable employment.

Following the example set by Mr. Ralph Griffith, the Director of Public Instruction. North West Provinces and Oudh, Colonel Holroyd has in the present report given a brief sketch of the progress of education in the Punjab during the past decade. From the figures furnished by the Colonel, it appears that during this period the number of students has increased by nearly 38 per cent., and the expenditure on education by 30 per cent. The Lieutenant-Governor observes: "The improvement in education in the Punjab has no doubt been very considerable during the past decade; but the Lieutenaut Governor is disposed to question if the advance made can be said to compare favorably with that in other branches of the administration." We fully agree with Sir Robert Egertou. The progress of educatiou in the Punjab has not kept pace with the development of the material resources of the country. There is a very good reason why this has not been the case. The Government does not give encouragement to the educated natives; there lies the whole secret of it. We trust Sir Charles Aitchison will take this matter into careful and favourable consideration.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

SIR ASHLEY EDEN embarks for England this morning by the P. & O. Co.'s S. S. *Pekin*, which starts from No. 4, Jetty at 10 A. M. The Port Commissioners have been very considerate. They have allowed one of the sheds on the Jetty to be utilized as a place where Sir Ashley Eden can meet and take leave of his numerous friends.

ON THURSDAY last the Hon'ble Mr. Rivers Thompson arrived at Calcutta from Simla. He at once proceeded to Belvedere, where he has taken up his quarters. This morning he takes over charge of office from Sir Ashley Eden. May the King live for ever! Mr. Thompson we believe will make a short stay in Calcutta for eight or ten days, and will then proceed to Darjeeling. He will descend to the plains in July next.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY as we had announced before has been appointed successor to Mr. Thompson in the Supreme Council. He will be probably succeeded at Hyderabad by Col. Bradford. Sir Steuart is a quiet, unostentatious man, but possesses much strength of character. He brings varied experience to the Vice-Regal Council.

WE HAVE much pleasure in giving the first instalment of the names of subscribers to the Eden Memorial. They are for the most part Behar gentlemen, who are about to leave Calcutta:

	Rs.
The Maharajah of Burdwan	5000
Do. Do. Durbhangah	5000
Do. Do. Hatwa	1000
Do. Do. Doomraon	1000
Do. Do. Giddhore	1000
The Maharani of Tikari	500
Syud Lootf Ali Khan	500
Kumar Rameshwar Singh	500
Rajah Hurbullubnarain Sing	200
Nowab Valayet Ali Khan	200
Syud Mohamad Nowab	200
Do. Ameer Hossein	100
Rai Jai Prokash Lall Bahadoor	100
Col. Hadayet Ali, C.I.E.	200
Syud Ali Khan Bahadur	200
Hajee Noor Mohammad	100
Mr. H. A. Dugman	50
Kader Mirza	50
Moulvie Khoda Buksh	50
Assad Aly Khan	20
Babu Hurbuns Sahaye	50
Total Rs	16,020

If the subscription goes on at this rate, which we hope it will, there is sure to be a good surplus, which we trust will be applied to some useful objects.

THE WEEKIST of last *Saturday Evening's Englishman* quotes the Government Rules chapter and verse to shew that Sir Ashley Eden as a member of the Civil Service is prohibited from accepting valedictory addresses, though on the eve of retirement, except with the permission of the Viceroy. The writer has evidently counted without his host, for, we are informed, Sir Ashley has actually taken the precaution of obtaining the permission of the Viceroy. But in reply Sir Ashley, we hear, has been told that the permission was not necessary, as the previous rules on the subject, which have not been cancelled, made exceptions in favour of Lieutenant-Governors. Why Sir Robert Egerton made the excuse it is not for us to say.

WE HAVE barely time to announce that the Government of India has passed orders in the now notorious O'Donnell case. Lord Ripon supports Sir Ashley Eden on every point, while His Excellency strongly censures Mr. O'Donnell for his spirit of insubordination, and for his abuse of summary powers as a Magistrate. He takes no notice of the municipal case, because it did not come before Sir Ashley Eden, though certain papers took a delight in heaping abuse upon his devoted head for the last six months by making it a peg for their diatribes. So Sir Ashley Eden has the satisfaction of knowing before his departure from this country that his orders in this wretched case have been upheld by such a righteous Government as that of Lord Ripon.

THERE was a round of festivities in honor of Sir Ashley Eden last week. We had barely time to mention in our last the entertainment given to him at Uttarpara by Babu Joykissen Mookerjea. This entertainment was made memorable by the friendly office which Sir Ashley Eden kindly offered to promote a reconciliation between the brothers Babu Joykisen Mookerjea and Babu Bejoykissen Mookerjea. The matter we are told has been left in the hands of Mr. Carstairs, the sub-divisional officer of Serampore. On Monday Babu Juggadanund Mookerjea gave a very interesting entertainment, including a theatrical performance. On Tuesday the European community entertained Sir Ashley Eden at a public banquet. On Wednesday Sir Ashley Eden voluntarily honored Maharaja Komul Krishna with a visit, he being not well enough to proceed to Belvedere and bid him good-bye. On Saturday preceding Sir Ashley honored with a visit our esteemed townsman, Mr. Manockjee Rustomji. Maharaja Komul Krishna with his brother Maharaja Narendrakrishna, and his nephews Raja Harendra Krishna and Raja Rajendranarain Deb, received His Honor in right orthodox Hindu style. The Maharaja performed the farewell ceremony through his priests. From Sobha Bazar Sir Ashley proceeded to the Sanskrit College where a novel and most interesting farewell ceremony was held by 300 learned Pundits of Bengal assembled by Pundit Mohesh Chunder Nayaratna, the Principal of the Calcutta Sanskrit College. The same evening Sir Ashley formally opened the Hospital for Women and Children. The same night he was entertained at the Emerald Bower by Maharaja Jotindra Mohun Tagore. The garden was brilliantly illuminated; there was a variety of music, both instrumental and vocal, and the reader may easily form an idea of its excellence, when we mention that the orchestra had been under the personal superintendence of Raja Showrendra Mohun Tagore, Mus. Doc. C. I. E. There were *natches*, and the programme was concluded by a gondola scene on a tank. The guests, who comprised the *elite* of European society, partook of a regular sit-down supper. Altogether the entertainment was a splendid success and every one came away highly pleased. On Thursday Sir Ashley Eden gave a farewell party at Belvedere. On Friday the Maharaja of Hutwa gave a dinner and an evening party. Both went off very pleasantly. On Saturday the Civil Service gave a public dinner to Sir Ashley Eden, which was presided over by Mr. Rivers Thompson. Thus was concluded the last week of Sir Ashley Eden's stay in India.

WE HAVE been not a little amused by the sort of criticisms, which have been flowing in from some of our contemporaries on Sir Ashley Eden's administration, and on our review of it. They seem to think that they monopolize the right of expressing public opinion on the subject. Now, the press is justly regarded as the exponent of the public, and have the public expressed themselves one way or another in respect of Sir Ashley Eden's administration? There have been five public meetings in honor of Sir Ashley Eden in five centres of opinion, we mean Bankipore for Behar, Bhaugulpore for the Bhaugulpore division, Cuttack for Orissa, Hooghly for the Burdwan Division, and Calcutta for the whole province. The natural leaders of society in these places, men to whom the Government look for help in an emergency and for expression of opinion on public questions, and round whom the people rally for advice and protection—we say such men have held the meetings and voted the addresses, and have these demonstrations no significance as expressive of native opinion? As for the Calcutta meeting never before had a more thoroughly representative meeting, as the names of those present shew, been held, and yet we are asked to ignore these facts and to hold that the vituperations in the columns of our contemporaries represent real native public opinion on the subject. Some bold spirits, we are told, wanted to test public feeling by holding a counter-meeting; they met, they spouted, and at last prudently decided upon "no action." So much for native opinion represented by our ardent contemporaries. Their criticisms of our review of Sir Ashley Eden's administration are equally fair and honest. We have repeatedly said that we are no blind admirers of Sir Ashley Eden, perhaps no one has spoken out more freely during the last five years than we have

done against his shortcomings, though we have not used Billingsgate, but we have said and will say, till we are convinced to the contrary, take his administration as a whole, and you will see that it has been undoubtedly beneficial and successful. But if our critics will not open their own eyes, but allow their passions and prejudices to get the better of their judgment, we can only pity them. We regret that their unreasoning violence and personal antipathies are calculated to do harm to the national cause in the estimation of the impartial British public. Sir Ashley Eden has got his reward—his name is enshrined in the affection of the masses, who know what he has done by emancipating the peasantry from Indigo thraldom, by propounding the Rent Bill, and by extending popular education, though they know nothing about the Vernacular Press Act or the Elective Municipality. He goes with the blessings of thousands of the middle and higher classes, who have watched his administration without regard to personal considerations. Under the circumstances what does he care for the invectives of a few disappointed, discarded, broken-down, cashiered, self-opiniated or angry men? But we do not wish to use strong words—we only wish that when our critics profess to preach truth, they should learn to practise it.

WE ARE glad to learn that the Maharaja of Durbhanga has subscribed Rs. 5000 in aid of the Building Fund of the Science Association. Now that the Maharaja has set a worthy example we hope other wealthy and public-spirited gentlemen of Behar will come forward in support of the Science Association. We have reasons to hope and believe that the Maharaja will eventually endow a professorship in the Science Association.

WE ARE glad to observe that Syud Ameer Hossein, Deputy Magistrate, 24-Pergunnahs, has founded a scholarship of the value of Rs. 20 per month, to be called after the name of Sir Ashley Eden, tenable for two years, at the Government Engineering College, Sibpur, by a Mahomedan boy, being a native of Bengal or Behar, who, after passing the Entrance Examination, may be selected to hold it by the Director of Public Instruction. The founder will pay a similar sum every two years during his life-time or until he could make a permanent endowment. The public spirit shewn by Syud Ameer Hossein deserves commendation, and we hope his example will be followed by other educated Mahomedan gentlemen.

SIR ASHLEY EDEN thus took leave of the Bengal Council at its last sitting:

The meeting is adjourned to this day fortnight. Before that day arrives, I shall have left India and have made over my office to my successor, but before leaving I wish to take this opportunity of bidding you adieu, and of thanking you for the very great assistance you have given me in the work of this Council. We have not attempted to legislate in this Council for the mere sake of legislation, and we have introduced no measures until they have been proved to be necessary either for municipal purposes, or in consequence of a distinct demand from the public; and we have always, as long as I have known this Council, attempted to keep rather behind than in advance of the public demand for legislation. I think I may also say that we have passed some very useful measures during the last few years, and though our sittings have not been lengthy or tedious, they really represent a very small portion of the time given up by the members to the irksome and severe work of sitting in Select Committee. You all know how much of your time has been taken up in this way, and the sacrifice has always been made with the greatest willingness. I have no more to say to you now except to adjourn the meeting.

We regret that no one in the Council reciprocated the feeling. The expression of opinion should have come from some non-official member.

AT THE request of the Committee of the British Indian Association His Excellency the Viceroy has been kind enough to forward the following telegram to the Secretary of State for India:—

The Committee of the British Indian Association, on behalf of their countrymen beg to express their strong disapprobation of the motion, of which notice has been given in Parliament for the suppression of opium trade. They look upon it as calculated to entail disastrous consequences on the finances of India without in any way benefiting the people of China.

(Sd.) RAJENDRALALA MITTRA,
President.

Apropos of the above our contemporary of the *Indian Daily News* says:

We are glad that the British Indian Association has spoken out on the opium agitation. The example is one which should be followed by other native associations and societies. The party opposed to opium are so given to exaggerations, so fond of avoiding figures and of appealing to sentiment against facts, that it is necessary to make the people of England understand that the people of India are not only concerned in this question, but are quite prepared to support the Government in this country in its opium policy. There is a danger that the incessant preaching of sentimental objects and ends might mislead the English people into committing itself on the opium question. Major Baring has done good service in bringing the discussion back to the regions of common sense, and it is now desirable that England should learn that India not only has opinions on the points ar issue, but claims a hearing for those opinions. The telegram of the British Indian Association is opportune; it is directly calculated to strengthen the hands of the Government both in this country and at home, and, further, it is chiefly useful in bringing prominently forward that Indian side of the opium question which has been hitherto too much ignored. The British Indian Association should follow up its telegram by a statement of the opium question from an Indian and native point of view, and should invite the support of native Associations throughout the country to the views it might express. An agitation in India of this kind would be perfectly legitimate. It would, moreover, serve a most useful purpose; for while it would teach the English people that the question is one which mainly concerns India, it would also teach them that India is not likely now-a-days to sit down idly, whilst her interests are denounced by men whose ignorance only makes their fanaticism the mere dangerous.

We concur.

WE HAVE much pleasure in giving a prominent insertion to the following extract from *Allen's Indian Mail*:

We are glad to learn that the publication in Calcutta may shortly be looked for of "An Analysis of the Sanskrit Buddhist Literature of Nepal," from the accomplished pen of Dr. Rajendralala Mitra, C.I.E. The work will be received with keen interest by the Orientalists of Europe. The learned doctor will also shortly be ready with his "Life of Buddha," a work that can hardly fail to add largely to our knowledge of "the Light of Asia;" and, further, a "Translation of the Yoga Aphorisms." The remarkable literary activity of the foremost Indian scholar of the day is a fact in which not only his fellow countrymen, but also his fellow subjects, may justly feel considerable pride. The world of science and letters owes a debt of gratitude to the present Government of Bengal for doing itself honour in setting Dr. Mitra free for these scholastic pursuits.

WE GLADLY give a prominent insertion to the following letter:

MY DEAR SIR,—Before leaving Calcutta I am anxious to return my heart-felt thanks to yourself and your contemporaries for the welcome accorded to me and my interesting experiment. I hope you will not think me ungrateful, if I say, that my work has been overrated by the metropolitan Press. I doubt if I can ever be a Poet such as Indian Poets have been. I know I am not a scholar. But I thank you for your goodness, such appreciation strengthens the hand of the solitary worker. If my little project succeeds, as I wish it to, and as it ought to, it will rejoice me to remember how much of the success I owe to the public Press of Calcutta and to Native and European friends whose generous and ready cooperation is a guarantee of the practical success of my mission to the City of Palaces.

I have seen a good deal of Calcutta and have made many friends who are kind as mothers milk. In leaving them, I feel as if I were leaving a part of my life-work behind, so keen is the interest I already experience in all that concerns this great people, their virtues and even their weaknesses.

Yours respectfully,
BEHRAMJI M. MALABARI,

Calcutta, 20th April 1882.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN DISEASES OF THE THROAT.—Sir G. Duncan Gibb, Bart., M.D., LL.D., Physician and Lecturer on Forensic Medicine, Westminster Hospital, author of various works on Diseases of Throat and Larynx, writes:—"The experience of many years has abundantly proved the truth of every word said in favour of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil by many of our first Physicians and Chemists, thus stamping him as a high authority and an able Chemist whose investigations have remained unquestioned. Its value, therefore, as a therapeutic agent in a number of diseases, chiefly of an exhaustive character, has been admitted by the world of medicine; but, in addition, I have found it a remedy of great power in the treatment of many Affections of the Throat and Larynx, especially in Consumption of the latter, where it will sustain life when everything else fails. Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil has an agreeable flavour, is very palatable, and liked by children; hence its value in the third stage of Hooping Cough, when it acts as a restorative and tonic." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford & Co. 77, Strand, London.

COMMERCIAL.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Saturday, 22nd April, 1882.

There has scarcely been any noticable change or improvement in our commercial affairs. The markets continued flat notwithstanding low prices for piece-goods and country produce. Transactions during the period under review both in Imports and Exports have been confined within narrow limits. No substantial improvement can be looked for until sufficient money becomes available at easier rates of interest.

MONETARY.

The Bank of Bengal having on the 13th instant reduced one per cent. of its rates for interest and discount it has to a slight extent mitigated the effects of a stringent money market, but unless further and liberal reductions are made it will afford no substantial relief to the trade at large.

GOVT. SECURITIES.

Transactions in these have rather been of a limited nature with small fluctuations—rates during the week rose as high as 101-11 for 4 per cent. and 108-10 for 4½ per cent. but at the close dropped to 101-7 and 108-8.

JOINT-STOCK SHARES

Have rather been in less demand except I. G. S. and Jute Industries which found buyers at higher rates.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.	Rs.	As.	P
Extra Assitt, Commissioner, Tezpore Assam	13	4	0
Deputy Commissioner, Debrooghur	3	0	0
V. Abhiram, Tanjore College, Tanjore	6	10	0
Baroda State Library	13	4	0
Pundit Futtehchund Mehta, Durbhanga	6	0	0
Savay Ram, Attuck	6	10	0
Meer Mahboob Jan, Chupra	9	15	0
Chairman District Road Cess Committee Tipperah	4		0
Maharaja of Nattore	13	4	0
Lakhput Rao, Esq. Rawalpindee	13	4	0
Raja Monodakant Bahadur, Chunchrah	13	4	0
Hon'ble Vishvanath Naryan Mundlick C. I. E. Bombay	12	0	0
Rai Shamlal Mitra, Bahadur, Gya	13	4	0
Ex. Engr. Murree Survey	11	4	0
Baboo Ramchunder Mookerjee, Ferozepore	13	4	0
,, Mohendrachunder Goopta, Rungpore	10	0	0
,, Woomachurn Banerjee, Barhan	6	10	0
,, Benodebehary Banerjee, Rungpore	13	0	0
,, Jodoonath Mookerjee, Deoghur	10	0	0
,, Kashychunder Mookerjee, Durbhanga	3	4	0
,, Denonath Gungooly, Poona	10	0	0
,, Doolalchunder Dev, Sylhet	6	0	0
,, Nilcomul Lahory, Lahore	13	0	0
,, Benodebehary Mitra, Manickgunge	13	4	0
,, Promothonath Mookerjee, Burdwan	13	4	0
,, Grischunder Dutta, Debrooghur	10	0	0
,, Kallyprosunno Mookerjee, Narail	20	0	0
,, Luckinarain Das, Krishnaghur	10	0	0
,, Brojosoonder Maitra, Pubna	6	10	0
,, Brindabunchunder Ghose, Debrughur	13	4	0
,, Sibessor Persad, Durbhanga	3	0	0
,, Dinnonath Hazra, Sehorah	10	0	0
,, Harradhone Ghose, Rosoolkonda	13	4	0
,, Guddadhurpersad Singh, Belaspore	3	13	0
,, Bholanath Das, Tangail	6	10	0
,, Parsuram Khoond, Debrughur	10	0	0
,, Omritolall Biswas, Rajhat	4	0	0
,, Anundachunder Mohanti, Tanghee	6	4	0
,, Muddungopal Sircar, Kushhatta	7	8	0
,, Baneymadhub Chatterjee, Tipperah	13	4	0
,, Sarutchunder Roy, Santipore	10	0	0
,, Tareenypersad, Bhagulpore	13	4	0
,, Benodebehary Gossain, Boinchee	3	5	0
,, Dinnonath Das, Zindbazar	6	10	0
,, Bemolanund Mookerjee, Kishengunge	6	10	0
,, Siddessur Chatterjee, Jumoo	13	4	0
,, Ramdhary Sahoy, Mozufferpore	13	4	0
,, Geneshchunder Chowdry, Bouleah	13	4	0
,, Ombicachurn Chowdry, Radhanuggar Burdwan	20	0	0
,, Probodechunder Bose, Rajmahal	14	0	0
,, Sivadutta Pandey, Lucknow	13	4	0
,, Dinnobundoo Kar, Rampore Hat	6	10	0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*April* 19, 1882.

GENERAL.—Mr. H. Savage, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector in charge of the Rampore Hat Division of the Beerbhoom district, is transferred to Mymensingh, and is posted to the sudder station of that District.

Mr. A. H. Collins, Assistant Magistrate and Collector in charge of the Govindpore Division of the Manbhoom district is transferred to Beerbhoom, and is appointed to have charge of the Rampore Hat Division of that district.

Baboo Rajendra Nath Mitra, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to the sudder station of the district of the 24-Purgunnahs.

Mr. R. F. Rampini, District and Sessions Judge of Dacca, is allowed leave for one month and eight days, under sections 71 and 72-2, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 24th instant.

Mr. G. G. Dey, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Monghyr, is appointed to act as a District and Sessions Judge of Dacca, during the absence, on privilege leave, of Mr. R. F. Rampini, or until further orders.

Mr. S. Jacob is appointed to be temporarily a Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the Second Grade, with effect from the 1st January 1882, *vice* Mr. J. Posford. Mr. Jacob will, however, continue to be employed under the Government of India until further orders.

H. C. Williams is appointed to be temporarily as a Joint Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the Second Grade, with effect from the 1st January 1882, *vice* Mr, S. Jacob, Mr. Williams will, however, continue to be employed under the Chief Commissioner of Assam until further orders.

Mr. T. J. Murray is appointed to be temporarily a Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the Second Grade, with effect from the 1st January 1882, *vice* Mr. H. C. Williams. Mr. Murray will, however, continue to be employed under the chief commissioner of Assam until further orders.

Mr. R. Cornish is appointed to be temporarily a Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the Second Grade, with effect from the 1st January 1882, *vice* Mr. T. J. Murray. Mr. Cornish will continue to act, until further orders, in the First Grade of Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collectors.

Mr. H. Thompson, Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collector Julpigoree, reported his departure from India, on leave on the 22nd March 1882.

Mr. J. Boxwell, Magistrate and Collector, Durbhunga, is appointed to be a Magistrate and Collector of the First Grade with effect from the 25th March 1882, *vice* Mr. W. S. Wells, retired.

Mr. E. J. Barton, Magistrate and Collector, Jessore, is appointed to be a Magistrate and Collector of the Second Grade, with effect from the 25th March 1882, *vice* Mr. J. Boxwell.

Advertisements.

INDIAN CIRCUS.

FOR THE DIFFUSION OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION.

The Second Preliminary Performance of the Indian Circus Company will be given at their Practice ground No. 66, Machoa Bazar Street on Tuesday the 25th instant at 5½ P. M. The *elites* of the town will be invited.

রত্ন-গিরি ।

আশা—প্রতীক্ষা।

প্রথম পর্ব্ব সমস্ত হইয়াছে। মূল্য ৸/১০ ডাক মাশুল এক আনা। দ্বিতীয় পর্ব্ব সপ্তাহে সপ্তাহে ফর্ম্মায় ফর্ম্মায় প্রকাশিত।

শ্রীঅমূল। কৃষ্ণ দেবসা।

কলিকাতা, শোভাবাজার।

NOTICE.

Undersigned wishes to exchange his place with one of similar position in N. W. P. Travelling allowance will be paid by

FUTTEH CHAND MHATTA,
Accountant 4th Grade,
Durbhanga, Tirhoot State Railway.
4th April 1882.

NOTIFICATION.

To be peremptorily sold pursuant to a decree of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal in its Ordinary Original Civil Jurisdiction made in suit. No. 251 of 1880 (wherein Janokeynath Roy is plaintiff and Sreemotty Khettermony Dossee and Nilrutton Bose are defendants) and dated the 12th August 1880, by the Registrar of the Said Court in his sale room at the Court-House on Saturday the 29th day of April next, at the hour of 12 o'Clock at noon the undermentioned immoveable properties either in one lot or in several lots as may suit intending purchasers.

Lot 1.—All that four annas share of and in the Zemindary Purgunnah Tuppa Shah Alumpore and recorded as No. 2 in the rent roll of the Collector of Beerbhoom, and which said four annas share of the Zemindary bears an annual Government revenue of Rupees thirteen thousand one hundred and sixty-one three annas two pie and two cowries.

Lot 2.—All that four annas share in the Zemindary called Salumpore &c Julkur and recorded as No. 286 in the rent roll of the Collector of Beerbhoom which said four annas share bears annual Government revenue of Rupees thirty-two, two annas ten pie and one cowree.

Lot 3.—All that four annas share in all that Zemindary called Mehal Dominai and recorded as No. 559 in the rent roll of the Collector of Beerbhoom and which said four annas share bears an annual Government revenue of Rupees thirteen one anna ten pie and three cowries.

Lot 4.—All that four annas share in all that Zemindary called Mehal Doobrajpoor and recorded as No. 545 in the rent roll of the Collector of Beerbhoom and which said four annas share bears an annual Government revenue of Rupees sixty-nine eight annas and four pie and which said Zemindaries and lands are let in Putney.

Lot 5.—All that four annas share in all that Zemindary called Shikh Bahar and recorded as No. 154 in the rent roll of Collector of Beerbhoom bearing a sudder jummah of Rupees three thousand seven hundred and fifteen and fourteen annas.

Lot 6.—All that four annas share in all that large brick-built factory house together with thatched houses &c. covering area of one hundred bigahs and is butted and bounded as follows, namely, on the west and north of the road leading from Sewri Saori to Kallipore on the east of the paddy land and the road and on the south of the Company's factory and road which said Zemindaries talooks and Mehals are situate within the District of Beerbhoom and within the Registration Sub-district of Sewri, Thanna Suri Rajnagore, Kashba, Sakulipore, Lobhpore, Barwan, Dubrajpore and Manresvar.

Lot 7.—All that upper-roomed brick-built messuage, tenement or dwelling-house No. 75 Beadon Street (formerly No. 77 Noyan Chand Dutt's Street) Simla, in the Town of Calcutta together with the piece or parcel of land thereunto belonging and on part whereof the same is erected and built containing by estimation two bigahs twelve cottahs and three gundahs, be the same a little more or less and which premises are butted and bounded as follows, that is to say on the north by the tenanted land of Sumbhoo Chunder Banerjee, formerly belonging to Nilmony Mitter deceased, on the south partly by the public road called Nyan Chand Dutt's Street partly by the house and premises of Sumbhoo Chunder Dutt formerly belonging to Rutton Chunder Dutt, partly by the land and tank belonging to the estate of Promotho Nauth Dey and Aushootos Dey and partly by the dwelling-house of Hollodhur Bysack formerly belonging to Gunganarain Bysack on the east partly by the house and premises belonging to the said estate of Promotho Nauth Dey and Aushootos Dey and partly by the tenanted land of Sumbhoo Chunder Banerjee, formerly belonging to Nilmoney Mitter and on the west partly by the dwelling-house and premises of Sreenauth Bose and Gopaul Chunder Bose formerly belonging to Madhub Chunder Bose partly by the house and premises of Birressar Dutt and partly by the dwelling-house and premises of Bhola Nath Bannerjee formerly belonging to Ramnidhi Bannerjee.

Lot 8.—All that piece or parcel of land containing about two cottahs situate in Beadon Street in Calcutta and now forming a part of the said house and premises No. 75 Beadon Street and lying to the south of the southern wall of the said house and separating the same from Beadon Street and which piece of land was purchased from the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta.

The condition of sale and abstract of title may be seen in the Office of the Registrar of High Court in its Original Jurisdiction and also in the office of Baboo Ashootoss Dhur, Attorney for the Plaintiff at No. 3 Hasting's Street in the Town Calcutta on any day before the sale and will be produced at the sale.

Aushootoss Dhur,
Plaintiff's Attorney.
Calcutta,
High Court Original Side.
The 18th March 1882.

R. BELCHAMBERS
Registrar.

NOTIFICATION.

To be peremptorily sold by the Registrar of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal in its Ordinary Original Civil Jurisdiction in his sale room in the Court House on Saturday the 6th day of May next at the hour of 12 o'clock at noon pursuant to a decree of the said Court made in Suit No. 204 of 1880 [wherein Kallypersaud is plaintiff and Jogender Chunder Mill is defendant] and dated the 15th day of April 1880 the following property namely.

Lot I.—All that undivided one-third share of him the said Jogender Chunder Mill of and in all the three several messuages or dwelling houses, heredetaments, land and premises being formerly comprised in one number 38 in Goa Bagan Street in the Town of Calcutta containing by estimation five cottahs and eight and half chittacks at present Nos. 17, 18 and 19, Issur Mill's Lane No. 1 in the said Goa Bagan Street and butted and bounded on the north by a public road and public drain on the south by the dwelling house of Russomoye Dassee hereinafter mentioned, on the east by the houses of Brojomohun Fouzdar and Porankristo Paul but now belonging to Gopaul Mookerjee and the said Porankisto Paul, and on the west by the public road.

Lot 2.—All that undivided one-third share of and in all that messuage upper-roomed dwelling-house hereditaments and premises formerly No. 42 Goa Bagan Street but at present No. 11 Issur Mill's Lane, Goa Bagan Street aforesaid together with the land whereon the same is erected containing by estimation seven cottahs and butted and bounded in manner following, that is to say on the south by the public road, on the north by the said Nos. 17, 18 and 19, Issur Mill's Lane, No. 1, Goa Bagan Street on the west by the house of Muddoosoodun Chuckerbutty and on the east by the house of Shumbhoo Chunder Ghose now belonging to Khettermohun Nundy or howsoever otherwise the said messuages lands hereditaments and premises are known or reputed to be together with all buildings, yards, ways, liberties, easements and appurtenances to the said hereditaments and premises belonging or in any wise appertaining or usually held or occuppied therewith or reputed to belong or be appurtenant thereto.

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C. F. PITTAR,
Plaintiff's Attorney, Calcutta
High Court Original Jurisdiction, 22nd March 1882.

Sd. R. BELCHAMBERS,
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26	×	19	×	17	„	80
28	×	20	×	18	„	85
30	×	21	×	20	„	90
32	×	22	×	21	„	105
34	×	23	×	23	„	115
36	×	24	×	24	„	125

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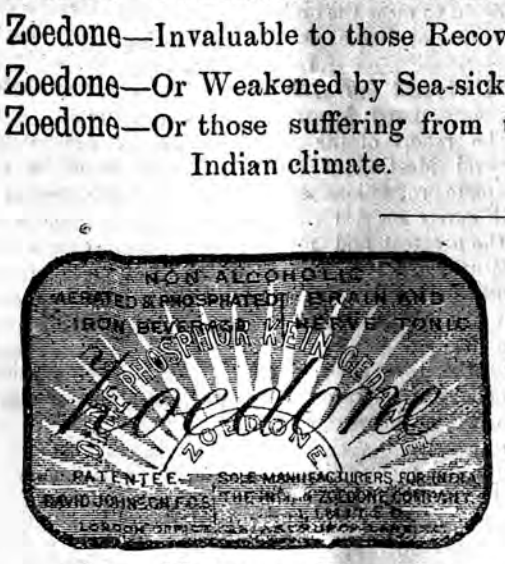

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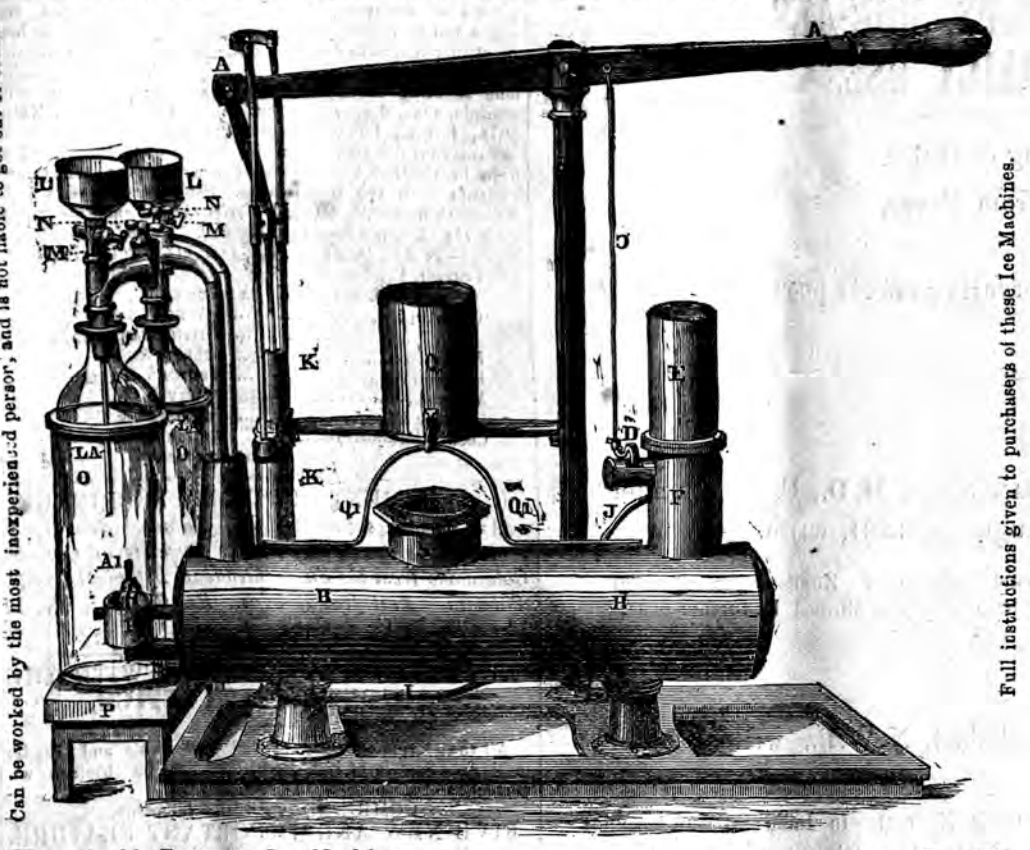

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LOCAL.

BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

(Concluded from our last issue.)

The election of the under-mentioned gentlemen as members of the Association by the Committee was next confirmed :—

Syud Looft Ali Khan, Bahadur, Babu Surrutchunder Roy Chowdry, Kumar Dinendra Nath Roy, Babu Baicanto Nath Sen, Babu Chunder Goti Mustaphi, Kumar Surratchunder Singh, Babu Radhaballabha Chowdry, Babu Benodebehary Mullick, and His Highness Maharaja Ishree Persad Sing of Benares.

Confirmed.

The under-mentioned gentlemen were next proposed for election :

Babu Boicanto Nath Roy, Zemindar, Dacca, proposed by Maharaja Narendra Krishna Bahadur, seconded by Babu Shama Charan Law.

Motion put and carried.

Babu Grishchunder Ghose, Calcutta, proposed by Babu Juggodish Nath Roy, seconded by Maharaja Narendra Krishna Bahadur.

Motion put and carried.

Babu Kalimohun Das next proposed that the undermentioned gentlemen be elected office-bearers for the current year :

Maharaja Norendra Krishna Bahadur, President.

VICE PRESIDENTS.

Babu Rajendralala Mitra, L.L.D., C.I.E., Babu Joykissen Mukerji, Hon'ble Doorgachurn Law, Maharaja Luchmessur Sing Bahadur, Darbhangha.

COMMITTEE.

The Hon'ble Maharaja Jotendramohun Tagore, Bahadur, C.S.I., Raja Harendra Krishna Bahadur, Raja Rajendranarain Deb, Bahadur, Raja Suttyanund Ghosal, Bahadur, Prince Ferokh Shah, Babu Pearychand Mittra, Kumar Debendranath Mullick, Babu Judulal Mullick, Babu Govindlal Seal, Babu Chunder Kant Mukerji, Babu Grishchunder Ghose, Babu Peary Mohun Mukerji, Kumar Poornochunder Singh Bahadur, Nawab Mir Mohamed Ali, Babu Norendra Nath Sen, Hurjeebhoy Mannkjee Rustumjee Esq., Babu Obhoycharan Goho, Babu Shamacharan Law, Babu Jogendrachunder Ghose, Babu Gurudas Banerjee, D.L., Babu Kallinath Mitter, Babu Sreenath Chunder, Babu Surrendra Nath Pal Chowdry, Syud Ahmed, Babu Boikantonath Bose, Babu Kaliprosunno Ghose, Babu Juggodishnath Roy, Babu Saligram Sing, Hon'ble Mahomed Yusuff, Kumar Surrutchunder Sing, Bahadur, Babu Saruddendra Nath Tagore, Hon'ble Kristodas Pal, Secretary.

Kumar Dowlut Chunder Roy seconded the motion.

Motion put and carried.

Babu Charu Chunder Mullick moved the following motion :

"That the best thanks of this meeting be tendered to the retiring President, Vice-Presidents and the Members of the Committee for the industry, zeal and devotedness with which they performed their duties during the past year."

Babu Hurry Mohun Bose seconded the motion.

Motion put and carried.

Here the retiring President vacated the seat in favour of the newly elected President, who then thus addressed the meeting :

Gentlemen.—We shall not be surprised to learn that a powerful effort will be made at no distant time in the the British Parliament by a section of its memers to restrain the Government of India from poppy cultivation. It is abundantly grown in Patna, Beneras, Malwa, and in some other places. The products for which it is chiefly cultivated are opium, poppy heads, seeds, and seed oil. Opium is administered by English physicians, and its curative effects are well recognised. It is against its use as an article of luxury that the arguments of many good meaning English gentlemen are levelled. The agitators of the question of the opium monopoly denounce it as the protection of a deleterious production on account of its supposed mischievous effects on the moral and physical condition of those people who use it, especially of the Chinese nation, for whom the trade is kept up. Narcotics and stimulants in some form or other are used in all parts of the world for luxury, or as soothers of fatigue, or as supporters of labour. Opium in the present day is largely consumed in China and other Asiatic countries in the same way, and with the same object, as wine and ardent spirits are used in Europe. Men who are competent to pass judgment in respect of its extensive use in a large country have rightly observed that it appears to occasion no greater evil than the proportionate indulgence of wine or other spirituous liquors. It is a popular belief in this country that a moderate use of opium prolongs life, and most of our countrymen after the age of fifty betake themselves to the habit with considerable benefit to their health. It is alleged that the importation of opium has been a source of ruin to that country, but nobody can deny that the abuse of opium like that of any other narcotic is productive of pernicious consequences—the same may be said of a free use of cognac, which is brought into this country—nay, it is confessed to produce more disastrous consequences. The confirmed opium eater becomes useless, but not mischievous ; but not so the drinker of alcoholic liquors. We, however, hear no philanthropic voice raised against the trade in liquid fire and liquid damnation. The Chinese in general have not the means to use the Indian drug, which can be consumed only by the richer classe They have, however, become wiser than their past generations by introducing poppy cultivation in their own country, which at present yields opium of an inferior quality, but it may be improved in future. With many, it has become a necessity of life, and they must have it. If India cuts off the supply, Persia, Turkey, and some other countries will meet the China demand. The Government of India derives a revenue of about seven crores of rupees a year from opium, and no sane man in this country would propose the abolition of this trade merely on sentimental grounds which can apply with equal force to not a few articles of trade. I cannot conceive what other sources are available at present, from which, in the event of the abolition of the opium trade, Government can raise the like amount. Some of the advocates of the abolition in England, who have not studied well the affairs of this country, may say that a considerable reduction in expenditure [illegible] for the loss of the opium revenue ; but they [illegible] cost of the army alone absorbs [illegible] Government, and any imprudent large curtailment of expenditure in other branches cannot but impair the efficiency of the administration. The extension of railways in India may vastly develope its resources, but this is in the womb of futurity. Our experience of the operation and result of the Income-tax in this country has denounced it to be an utter failure, not to mention that it could scarcely make up half the opium revenue.

It remains for me to acknowledge the valuable services rendered to the Association by our retiring worthy President, Dr. Rajendralala Mitra, Rai Bahadur, C. I. E. His connection with it dates almost from its foundation. His labours fill a large space in its history. We have derived invaluable aid from his sterling talents, ripe experience, philanthropic and patriotic views, and manly spirit. I fervently hope that he may live to continue his career of usefulness. (Applause.)

Babu Jadulal Mallik then made some comments on the Budget Statement.

Babu Sreesh Chunder Bose then addressed that meeting to the following effect :—

Mr. Chairman and gentlemen,—I beg to offer a few remarks with regard to the opium question just now handled by Maharaja Narendra Krishna Bahadoor, and alluded to by Baboo Judoo Lal Mullick, which has been rendered the butt of ignorant and baissed opposition by the Anti-opium Society formed in England, composed of distinguished personages, including twenty-three members of Parliament and several peers of the realm. This question embraces so many tangled knots of political economy and heaps of political and historical information, that an ordinary layman like myself feels conscious incapacity to conceive the same ; but having regard to the fiery agitation actually gaining ground all over England against Indian opium revenue on grounds of imputed immorality, and considering the very influential parties that have taken it up, who may, it is not improbable, at no distant date, with ministerial or other political changes gain ascendancy upon the council of the nation, it is high time for all representative public bodies—nay, every individual—interested in the welfare of the country, competent or incompetent to agitate the matter, since agitation is the soul of success, At this late hour of the meeting, I do not consider it necessary to go over the same ground traversed by the preceding speakers, as to the object of the fanatical agitators who have undertaken a crusade against opium revenue, but to make my remarks fewer and briefer than they otherwise would be.

To meet the wishes and gratify a mere idle sentimentalism of the fanatical crusaders, the suppression of opium cultivation and manufacture in India, and the consequent withdrawal of the Indian drug from China, would entail upon the State a loss of revenue varying from 7 to 9 millions a year—a revenue that is raised without the operation of the least and slightest pressure upon the pockets of the miserable tax-payers of India,—a revenue that strengthened the hands of the Indian Government to carry out various beneficial reforms and improvements in every department of the State, *viz.*, Telegraph, Education, Post Office, Administration and Public Works, without which it would have been impossible to carry out those beneficial reforms mentioned by Sir Alexzander Arbuthnot, the late member of the Viceregal Executive Council. The surrender of such fertile source of income being opposed to sound economical principles for the sake of a mere sentiment, as held by Major *Baring* in his remarkable Budget Statement, which is an able vindication of the Government policy, the question resolves itself into one of policy and expediency. If financial considerations do not justify the Indian Government to abandon such a revenue, without the imposition of an equivalent taxation, political considerations of the first moment should equally forbid the adoption or substitution of any direct taxation which had been found by experience to be unsuited to the habits and customs of the people, circumstances and nature of the country, as it is always attended with hardship, inconvenience and oppression. If the reduction of expenditure be urged as the means to enable the Government to sacrifice this revenue, as pointed out by Maharaja Narendra Krishna, any body having common sense enough will perceive that such an enormous revenue can not be recouped by the reduction of expenditure in the existing staff of the administrative machinery, without the greatest detriment to the administration of justice, as was made clear in Lord Ripon's Budget speech whose noble utterances on the occasion of the Budget debate have filled the Indian public with an assurance that the adoption of the legislative or political measures of any kind should be rendered subordinate to the interests of the Indian people, in direct contrast to those of Lord Lytton, who on the occasion of addressing a Manchester audience, declared that since the English people are centuries in advance, the administration of Indian affairs must be carried on in accordance with English ideas, English thoughts, English politics, and not in consonance with native feelings, native wants and wishes.

Admitting, for argument's sake, that financial considerations may justify the surrender of the opium revenue, the question arises—would the abolition of the opium trade of India with China bring any amount of possible good to the Chinese and effect their moral regeneration, as urged by the agitators ? The natural inference from the existing state of things would be that there is no possibility of reforming the Chinese by the withdrawal of exportation of the Indian drug into China, since their own cultivation of poppy, combined with importations from Persia, Turkey and Mozambique would easily enable them to satisfy their demands for the drug. In addition to this, there is a very powerful obstacle standing in the way of their so-called reformation. They had become so much addicted to the habitual use of opium, that even the Imperial edicts issued by the Chinese Government failed to suppress the practice—a result, however, which was attended with benefit to the Chinese, as it served gradually, wherever opium-smoking prevailed, to completely entice them away from the use of their native ardent spirits, the effects of which have been found to be worse and more injurious to health than those of opium in whatever form taken. Opium if taken in moderate quantities, has been found to be conducive to health in the opinion of eminent medical authorities not to mention Dr. Moore of Bombay. This fact will, however, appear from the enjoyment of robust and well-built constitutions, and chivalrous and romantic temperament by the Rajpoots, the people of Guzerat, Cutch, Kattywur, Central India, and the Sikhs, who are all addicted to the habitual use of opium, as conclusively argued by Sir George Birdwood, who holds that it would be most unfortunate if the Chinese were led back to the use of the native ardent spirits, productive of more injurious effects on their constitution, in consequence of the abolition of opium manufacture in India. So much for the effects of the habitual use of opium by the people of the East, which suffice to meet the objections raised by the agitators on moral grounds.

Taking all these facts into consideration, it goes to prove that none of the arguments adduced from political, administrative and moral points of view hold good to substantiate the position taken by the fanatical agitators. With these remarks, without moving a definite resolution, I would suggest that the Committee take up this matter for consideration, and make representations on the subject to the Government, in co-operation with other representative public bodies, if necessary, as the full expression of public opinion may enable the Government to meet the fanatical agitators in England.

Babu Joykissen Mookerjee said :

Gentlemen,—This annual gathering not only affords an opportunity of meeting our friends and coadjutors but also enables us to exchange our opinions on the public topics of the day. If I recollect right this is the 30th year of the existence of this Association. During this long interval we have not achieved, it is true, any great feats of valour, but I am proud to say we have cheerfully devoted our time and money to promote the objects of this institution. I will not dwell upon the topics which have been so well handled by the previous speakers. I may however, speak a few words on the subjects of some importance.

The first is to afford an opportunity to the alumni of our colleges to gain experience by actual practice in the important duties of a Moonsiff. The plan at present pursued is to make the candidates practise for two years under a pleader or an attorney to obtain knowledge of Judicial business, but this plan has virtually failed and the Moonsiffs are appointed to perform important functions before they are acquainted with the habits, customs and feelings of the suiters and witnesses that are brought before them, in fact they pick up the knowledge as they go on discharging their duties and a great deal of injustice is inflicted in the interim. Their deficiency in weighing evidence has been more than once severely commented by the highest tribunal in the country. This is not only the mischief in the present system but Moonsiffs having in the commencement of their career accustomed themselves to a particular model of proceeding, the bias accompany them throughout their career with more or less tenacity.

It was proposed, therefore that, before a person is appointed a full Moonsiff, he should be appointed as an additional Munsiff and conduct execution decree sales, to excute decrees, hold investigation in the moffussil and take depositions of witnesses on the spot regarding qualities and conditions of lands and disputed boundaries. The latter duties are now to some extent performed by Civil Court Amens—a set of worthless and corrupt ministerial officers. Their removal from the service would be not a boon of mean importance by itself.

Secondly a Police Sub-Inspector drawing a salary from Rs. 50 to Rs. 60 or Rs. 80 per mensem is the responsible head at each Police station or Thanna. The people are enjoined to register before this officer all acts of violence, theft trespass, illegal gathering &c. &c. A person has only to pay a rupee, two or four rupees according to the means and position of the applicant and the complaint is at once inserted in the Thanna Register in the form best suited to the convenience, the interest of the latter. The Police Officers are invested by law with power to determine which cases are cognizable by them and others can only be taken up by Magistrates. It can easily be imagined that a Police Officer by turning and twisting any of the complaints above adverted to can make them recognizable by him and he rarely misses the opportunity of an Active interference or none interference scale of remuneration which is well understood by the parties. If the latter mode of forbearance be agreed upon no amount of solicitation by the opposite party for the preservation of peace will move the honest Sub-Inspector an inch from the Thannah unless he can bid higher over that of his oppressor. It is thus perfectly clear that the provisions of the law provided for preventing outrages of a most heinous character or for the preservation of public peace are entirely multiplied by the misconduct of local Police. The protection of life and property is entirely dependant upon the caprice of a low paid subordinate If the other form of proceedure *i. e.* immidiate action be resolved the police officer in minor cases deputes his Head Constable now called the Sub-Deputy Inspector and in cases of any magnitude he proceeds himself to the spot and makes a good harvest. The Police Officer possesses tremendous power under this law, he can arrest a person and *challan* him to the Magistrate whatever be his respectability. It is idle to suppose that an inadequately salaried officer will allow such opportunities to pass by merely for the sake of honesty when he can realize by a single stroke of his pen more than a month's salary.

The Magistrates and Deputy Magistrates almost invariably make over to this officer all complaints to report whether such a complaint has any foundation or not before he brings on the case for trial. Heretofore the Sub-Inspector used to have a Head-Constable under him on a salary of from Rs. 10 to Rs. 25 per mensem. Lately this officer's post has been designated as that of a Sub-Deputy Inspector and his salary raised to Rs. 30 per mensem. Thus it will be seen that the Sub-Inspector has the weal and woe of the people in his hands to a large extent. The people knowing this frequently resort to this officer whenever there is a little dispute among the member of a family or among the neighbours or with the village Gomasta and gives an exaggerated account of the occurrence. Money, and not truth, carry the day—what else can be expected from persons who have had little or no education and whose salary is not adequate to ensure honesty? If the salary of the Deputy Inspector be raised to Rs. 100 with the prospect of gradually increasing to Rs. 150 and horse allowance Rs. 16 and that of his subordinate from Rs. 50 to Rs. 75 per mensem it will gradually have due effect and the odium now attached to the police will be to a great extent removed. It may be said that the reports of mufussil Police officers do not go for much before a Magistrate but this is only in theory, practically the people suffer a great amount of injustice and annoyance in the hands of mufussil Police. True, now and then, Sub-Inspectors and Head-Constables are punished for their misdeeds. It is but rarely the case. And the cleverest of our Magistrates find great difficulty to catch these delinquests. The Deputy Inspectors may also be encouraged with the hope of obtaining the post of a Deputy Magistrate after three years faithful service. It must be remembered that Government must look to the financial part of the reform. The salary of Additional Munsiffs and increased pay of the Deputy Inspectors of Police will require

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additional expenditure. The abolition of Civil Court Ameens will to some extent meet this additional charge. There are two or three Inspectors on a salary of Rs. 200 to Rs. 250 and Assistant Police Superintendents—their services may be dispensed with if we have competed police officers at every Thannah Station. Some reduction of expense may be reckoned upon these savings; if there be any expenditure of a few thousand rupees in each district, Government should not grudge to spend the same when so much well and woe of the public are concerned. These improvements may be carried out in three or four districts as a tentative measure.

I would venture to suggest that a respectful representation be made to the Government.

Sudder distillery and out distillery are two questions of some importance. The former means the place in the sudder station of a district or sub-division where liquors are manufactured and sold to Abkars at a fixed price per gallon. These Abkars sell them by opening shops at whatever place they find convenient and sell the commodity under certain conditions. In practise they seldom if ever adhere to those conditions. They mix water with the liquor thus obtained to a large extent and mix deleterious drugs to enhance its quality for drunkenness and sell them at times other than those hours agreed upon. The outstill system means that these Abkars are allowed to distil liquor at their own places paying a certain tax to Government for each gallon.

The former system was in vogue for many years, but some years ago it was changed for the other. In its turn I believe from last year the former system has been again introduced. The Abkars are now distilling the liquor and selling it at their own sweet will. Public opinion is divided as to the merits and demerits of the two systems. There are reasons for and against each system. One class of public officers holds that the outstill system diminishes drunkenness while the other maintains to the contrary. It is a very tough and complicated question. As both systems are vicious and have tended to augment drunkenness there is very little to choose in the matter. I may, however, state here that public opinion is in favour of the sudder distillery system. I share in that opinion. It is boldly asserted that the liquor shops have diminished in number. The fact, however, belies this assertion to the extent of increase of drinking, every disinterested person will tell at once that for the last 20years drunkenness has rapidly increased and is daily increasing. It was formerly centred among the Bawri, Bagdi, Dom and other lower classes. But unfortunately it has been penetrating among the classes above them. Sons of cultivators, artisans, shop-keepers, Brahmins Baids &c. are being largely addicted to this vice. It may or may not be owing to a large number of liquor shops spread over villages and towns in every part of the country, or it may be owing to laxity of religious sentiments, but the fact of increase is incontrovertible. Its effect is most lamentable by whatever course it was brought about. It is announced in official circles that the price of liquor has greatly augmented of late and the number of shops reduced to check this great evil. I have not the statistics of former years to make comparisons, but it is beyond conception how drunkenness has augmented not slowly but rapidly; if those checks had been any thing like stringent preventives the official classes may fairly state that there are other tangible grounds for this alarming increas. By the spirit of Western cultures religious checks which formerly kept down drinking have disappeared and larger incomes enable the people to indulge in these deadly poisons. To the house of the officers of a higher grade let it be admitted at once that they equally with the public lament this misfo-tune. They do not however see their way clear as to the best means of checking wholly or even partially this great evil. They say truely that they cannot bring back the religious check to the national mind nor do they maintain that drunkenness will be diminished if all the liquor shops in the country were anihilated at once, because they maintain that liquor will be clandestinely distilled and sold all over the country without those official checks which exist at present and its cheapness will aggravate the evils, while the Government will be loser by many lacks of rupees which they are now realizing by tax. All these are fair grounds of defence no body will deny, but when there is a great evil impending over the whole nation can there be not by the united wisdom of officials and non-officials, any remedy if not for completely putting down drunkenness at any rate to a sensible extent? For instance, proclaim to the country by beat of tom tom that a year hence all sorts of liquor and gooly shops will be abolished and only a shop at the sudder station of every district or sub-district will be allowed to exist for the use of those persons who have contracted inveterate habbils and that without a glass there existence will be in danger. One year's grace is given to the people to reduce gradually their propensity to drunking and gooli-smoking it may be justly argued that this change will entail upon the Government loss many lacks of excise revenue without adequate benefit to the people. That rather enhances the evil to much larger dimensions. All this is true to some extent but when the hapiness or misery of the whole of India hangs over the decision of this all overwhelming subject is it not befitting for our enlightened Government to do as much as possible to diminish this curse by removing the temptation. from a man's sight he will gradually revert to the former condition of non-drinking. Now a man or a boy has only to come out of his house with a pice or two in his hand and he will at once find means for gratifying his thirst for drinking. But if he is to go to a distance of 5, 6 or 8 miles for the purpose he will think over it for half a dozen times before he takes the trouble. By this and other means drinking will gradually disappear and at any rate the remnant of it will not affect the rising generation, but how will you prevent illicit manufacture and vending is the next question. That also must take place gradually. Promulgate most stringent legal provisions, directing police officers and all other classes of people to be on the lookout and to punish offenders rather severely. Just as such measures have prevented the illicit manufacture and smuggling of salt, liquor manufacturing and sellingwill gradually meet with a similar fate. There is yet a large class of persons who abhor drunkenness and will cheerfully aid and assist Government in this attempt of national regeneration. This puritan class will hail such a measure with everlasting gratitute and like the puritans of England and North America who achieved the emancipation of slavery, will be ultimately triumphant. I belong to the total abstenance class and there are millions of persons yet who share the same feeling; and if government, before it becomes altogether hopeless, adopts stringent measures we may not despair of success. In this all-absorbing subject we are to go whole hog, no mincing measures will do. The nation which spend many millions of money for the emancipation of slavery and is still watching with a father's care any attempt to perpetuate slavery in any land, an influencial portion of it, is holding meeting and clamouring to stop the opium monopoly for the benefit of China, will not that nation sacrifice an amount of Indian Excise revenue to save her Asiatic possessions from this degrading vice? Relying on this sympathetic and more feeling of the great British nation I have been induced at the solicitation of a large class of my countrymen to submit this matter at this meeting with a view that a respectful memorial be submitted to Government for taking prompt measures on this subject.

It is well known that the Landlord and Tenant Bill, as drafted by the Government of Bengal, and modified by the Government of India, has been lately submitted to the Secretary of State for permission to introduce it in the local Council. As the parties most interested,—namely, the landlords and ryots—are not acquainted with the amendments that have been made in the Bill by the Government of India, the Secretary of State will have to form his decision without having the means of knowing what the parties most interested think of the measure, and yet the decision of the Secretary of State, will virtually settle, for the purposes of legislation, the most important features of the Bill. There are many intricate points in the Bill on which public opinion cannot too often be consulted. Some sections were introduced in the Bill on account of mere sentimentalism. Legislation on the subject of a land settlement requires much experience, tact, and talent, but however well-qualified our legislators may be in other respects, it will not be denied that most of them are singularly wanting in experience as regards the operation of the rent-laws and the habits, institutions, and requirements of the people. It is therefore of the utmost importance to place before the final authority both sides of the question, and I have no doubt that the decision thus obtained will not fail to give satisfaction to all parties concerned. Undue care for the interests of one party cannot fail ultimately to produce disastrous results. The Irish Land Act is a verification of this principle. It was made the law of the land by the strenuous efforts of the Liberal Government in the honest belief that that measure will pacify the country, but what is practically the result? Crime, lawlessness, and disorder have become rampant, and the rights granted to one party have made them clamorous for more. In India, even the plea of discontent of the ryoti class in the permanently settled districts is wanting. The disturbances in Pubna and other adjacent places were first brought about by the riot proclivities of a young officer, but the disturbances were soon put down when strong and impartial measures were adopted. Notwithstanding these palpable facts, the Government has thought proper to frame a Bill which ignores the rights guaranteed by the permanent settlement, and purposes to create a revolution in the land laws of this country. Looking to the question from another point, do we not see a marked difference between the condition of the cultivators in the Government Khas Mehals, in Madras, Deccan, and that of the ryots in the permanently-settled provinces? It may be urged that representations and objections from the landholding classes were received and considered in this country, and that consequently there is no need of their being consulted again, and their opinions submitted to the Secretary of State; but it should not be forgotten that after the representations of the landholding classes were submitted, the Government of Bengal, as well as the Government of India, has made important additions and alterations in the Bill, and that the public have had no means of knowing the extent and nature of those alterations. It is, therefore, meet that the most interested parties should have an opportunity of submitting their representations before the main features of the Bill receive the sanction of the Secretary of State, I would, therefore, recomend that a representation be made to the Government of India, praying that the Bill in its present shape should be published for general information and the Secretary of State be requested to postpone his decision for a period of six months.

Babu Rajnarain Dutt then addressedthe meeting on finance and taxation, and the administration of justice in the Mefussil.

Thanks were then voted to the chair, and the meeting separated.

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